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MANHOOD OF HUMANITY

The Science and Art of Human Engineering

By ALFRED KORZYBSKI

"It is a contribution of the highest importance to the study of every problem in which human life is one of the factors. The baffling complexities of human character and of human abilities begin to arrange themselves in simpler forms the moment they are analyzed with reference to Korzybski's exposition. . . . It is, indeed, difficult to see how the long-overdue reconsideration of the fundamental hypotheses of sociology and of political "science" can be much longer postponed if Korzybski's volume gets into the hands of the younger students in these fields."—ALLEYNE IRELAND.

WRITERS

"There are those who say . . . that the Polish Nobleman, named Korzybski . . . will be thought of as is Newton. And yet any ordinary man or woman can understand it, and can guess what it might mean to us. . . ."—ZONA GALE.

"The book is one so remarkable that I (for one) am urging upon all my friends the necessity of getting it—honestly if they can; dishonestly if they must, but anyway, to get it! Jestings aside, Korzybski certainly presents a view that fascinates the attention."—LILLIAN WHITING.

"In the name of all you hold dear you must read this book; and then you must reread it, and after that read it again and again, for it is not brewed in the vat of the soft best-sellers to be gulped down and forgotten, but it is hewn out of the granite, for the building of new eras."—H. L. HAYWOOD, Editor of the *BUILDER*, Official Magazine of the National Masonic Research Society.

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MATHEMATICIANS

CASSIUS J. KEYSER, Ph.D., LL.D., Adrain Professor of Mathematics in Columbia University, in an address at an annual meeting of the Columbia University Chapter of the Society of Phi Beta Kappa printed in "Science," September 9, 1921, and in "The Hibbert Journal," January, 1922, says:

"The book is, in my opinion, a momentous contribution to the best thought of these troubled years—momentous in what it contains, even more so in what it suggests, and most of all, I dare say, in the excellent things it will eventually help men and women to think and say and do. . . . From time immemorial the characteristic energies of our humankind have been hampered by the false conception that man is a miraculous mixture of natural and supernatural. Throughout the long period of our race's childhood, from which we have not yet emerged, those misconceptions have lain athwart the course of civilization. All that is precious in present civilization has been accomplished in spite of them. . . . If human beings continue to regard man as a species of animal, then the social life of the world in all its aspects will continue to reflect the misconception; especially our ethics, which subtly pervades, colours, and fashions all of the social sciences, will continue to be—what it always has been in large measure—a zoological ethics, animal ethics, the ethics of tooth and claw, space-binding ethics, the ethics of strife, violence, combat and war. . . . The concept is easy to grasp. Once it is understood, human life will accord with human nature, the time-binding energies will be freed from old bondage, and Civilization will at length advance in accord with its natural law as the great forward-leaping exponential function of Time. There will be great changes and many transfigurations. Education—education in home, school and church—will have for its supreme function to teach the children of man what man is and what they are. Ethics will abandon the space-binding standards of animals and will become *human* ethics based upon the natural laws of the time-binding energies of man. Freedom will be freedom to live in accord with those laws, and righteousness will be the quality of life that does not contravene them. The social sciences of ethics, education, economics, politics, and government, will become what they never have been—genuine sciences."

"A clarifying instrument of organized thought," says **ERIC T. BELL,** of the Department of Mathematics, University of Washington.

"It seems to me that the ordinary intelligent reader when confronted with (what I regard as) Korzybski's main discovery (or hypothesis), viz., that plants, animals, and men are respectively energy binders, space binders, and time binders, will say that all this is obvious. Perhaps it is, but if so, it took a genuine flight of genius to recognize this radical distinction between the three classes of life. But after all, is it so obvious? Korzybski's ideas are so direct, and stated with such admirable clearness in so many different and illuminating ways, that any person of average intelligence can grasp the essential meanings at one reading. His main contribution is one of those clarifying instruments of organized thought that bring order into apparent chaos and indicate where the next step may reasonably be ventured. Anyone but a congenital idiot will get out of this book as much entertainment of a lasting kind as is contained in a whole library of romance."

Elsewhere PROFESSOR BELL says:

"Happily for the Korzybskians their theory is not alone in its "platitudinous" simplicity; "the survival of the fittest" is a fellow platitude, and the "covariance of physical laws" is another. A platitude is sometimes a recondite fact which we ourselves could have discovered had we been gifted with the right mentality."

From PROFESSOR R. D. CARMICHAEL, Department of Mathematics, University of Illinois.

"As Count Korzybski has well said, man is a time-binder. . . . His law of progress seems to be that of the geometrical ratio. . . . It is obvious that this law . . . has not always been realized fully in the experience of our race. There have been hindrances to prevent its full play . . . we shall examine briefly the progress of exact thought from the point of view of the validity of this law . . ."

From CORA L. WILLIAMS, formerly instructor of Mathematics in the University of California, founder of the Cora L. Williams Institute for Creative Education, Berkeley, California.

"Would you know what I 'really think'? It is that time-binding should be made the fundamental basis of all instruction henceforth, and 'The Manhood of Humanity' a textbook in every college throughout the world."

BIOLOGISTS, PSYCHOLOGISTS, PSYCHIATRISTS

"Should be carefully studied by all men of science, lest its truth fail of being transformed into creative energy," says ALEXANDER PETRUNKEVITCH, Professor of Zoology, Yale University.

"Unlike practical discoveries in the field of applied science or industry, new conceptions in pure science and thought have innumerable forerunners whose chief work lies in preparing the human mind for the final reception of the great truth to be formulated by some genius. . . . Such a truth concerning the nature of human thought is now beginning slowly to dawn on the world and, when once clearly conceived, will profoundly change not only scientific conceptions of energy and its laws of preservation, but human relationships as well. I do not want to convey the impression that the author of "Manhood of Humanity" has spoken the word which will reverberate throughout the thinking world. He, too, is only a forerunner, though he brings us considerably nearer the goal. . . . Yet the main principles are so important that the book not only deserves a wide circle of readers, but should be very carefully studied by all men of science lest the elements of truth contained in it should be overlooked and remain idle instead of being transformed into creative energy."

From "The Journal of Applied Psychology."

"'Manhood of Humanity' is a valuable attempt to a true conception of what human beings really are—an attempt to initiate the scientific study of man—a science and art that will know how best to direct the energies of man to the advancement of human welfare. It is written in a clear, logical, stimulating style and the theory advanced by

the author will probably arouse much controversy. It is an attack of a very old subject from a new point of view and is a truly remarkable contribution toward the scientific study of humanity and should command the attention of all interested in humanity's problems."—MAX MEENES.

From STEWART PATON, psychiatrist, Princeton University.

"There can be no greater power in a very human world than a clear conception of the nature of man. Count Korzybski emphasizes this fact in his interesting and stimulating book in a manner that should commend the volume to a very wide circle of readers."

From ADOLF MEYER, Professor of Psychiatry, Johns Hopkins University.

"Dr. Herbert James Hall represents the true religion of work, leading us to a new sense of the sacredness of the moment—when fitted rightly into the rhythms of individual and social and cosmic nature. Another apostle of the Gospel is . . . Count Alfred Korzybski's 'Manhood of Humanity' . . ."

Professor CHARLES E. MUNROE of George Washington University, after reviewing the concept of man of Korzybski, says:

"May we not justly hold that this new concept offers the greatest of all reasons for studying chemistry . . ."

From the address of the President of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, Toronto, 1921, quoted in "Science," December 30, 1921.

"Count Korzybski in his recent remarkable book 'Manhood of Humanity,' gives a new definition of man, departing from the purely biological concept on the one hand and from the mythological-biological-philosophical idea on the other, and concludes that humanity is set apart from other things that exist on this globe by its time-binding faculty, or power, or capacity. . . . It is, indeed, this *time-binding* capacity which is the principal asset of humanity, and this alone would make the human species the dominant type of the vertebrate series."

ENGINEERS

"A book of tremendous force and beauty, possessing almost unlimited influence on the future development of mankind," declares WALTER N. POLAKOV, the well-known engineer.

"The book commends itself to any engineering reader, to any man of business, for it points the way out of the welter into which our industrial and social relations apparently have gotten. . . . It is bound to become our new Organum, interpreting Humanity to itself and ushering in a new epoch of mature thought, freeing Humanity from dismal things of the past that were bred by misconception as to man's position in the universe. Korzybski's method is that of the highest form of induction and of scientific analysis

of experimental facts—it is a supreme logic of mathematically rigorous thinking. . . . But—and this cannot be over-emphasized—his discovery, like any work of great gennius, is so simple, so beautiful and so complete that it is within easy grasp of a child or an illiterate person.”

By ROBERT B. WOLF, Vice-President of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers.

“I consider Count Korzybski’s discovery of man’s place in the great life movement as even more epoch making than Newton’s discovery of the law of gravitation. It will have a far greater effect upon the development of the human race.

“His book, ‘Manhood of Humanity,’ is one of great power and originality, and I believe that no thinking man or woman can afford not to be familiar with it. It opens up an entirely new field of thought, and my own keen interest in it comes, not only from the fact that Count Korzybski proves his theory mathematically, but also, because my own years of practical experience as an industrial manager have proven beyond a question of doubt, that his theory of man’s relationship to Time is absolutely correct.”

DOCTOR ELLWOOD HENDRICK, in the Chemical and Metallurgical Engineering.

“Here is a book which we believe would have delighted the heart of the late William James. It is easy to read, and no one need fear that he will go to sleep over it. It isn’t dull, or involved, or even subtle. If a reader tries to be subtle in reading he will miss its bigness.”

BUSINESSMEN

From ADMINISTRATION, The Journal of Business Analysis and Control.

“This book will find extreme value in the hands of every executive and in fact should be read by every man who has under him the supervision of the work of other men. . . . Wealth, Capital and Labor, and other economic factors are treated for the first time in this book from a purely mathematical viewpoint. The reader will have sufficient food for thought as well as application to last a long time.”

From AMERICAN BANKER.

“The writer believes that it would be worth while for every banker to absorb the suggestions which this book contains for the purpose of getting a clear viewpoint of conditions which exist today.”

From SYSTEM, The Magazine of Business.

“The Count at least has accomplished great good in making us think seriously of getting more out of life in the way of achievement and happiness, and of tapping greater possibilities in the human mind.”

FOREIGN

The MODERN REVIEW, Calcutta, India.

"Korzybski has just written a book which sweeps aside all past conceptions regarding man's place in the universe."

TOMORROW, Adyan, Madras, India.

"This book on the Science and Art of Human Engineering I take to be most opportune. . . . That our education is wrong because it belongs to the biological epoch that is passing. . . . When men have learned to bind time, then will time become a binder of men . . ."

JAPAN GAZETTE, Yokohama, Japan.

"The Polish engineer's concept is so novel that it makes little impression on the mind at first. But the idea is vital and grows on one and will be much discussed in the future as its full significance is revealed . . ."

From T. BRAILSFORD ROBERTSON, Professor of Physiology and Biochemistry, University of Adelaide, South Australia.

"The importance of the time-sense in the evolution of man has latterly been especially emphasized by Korzybski . . ."

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