

Einstein - the Man and the Mystic

(The Significance of Einstein)

I. Introduction.

- A. Statement of A.B. Shaw relative to 9 generations having passed since there was an opportunity to be present with a man of Einstein's altitude.
- B. The greatest mind of the age and a character universally loved.
- C. Reference to statement that science is the Avatar of this day.
 - 1. Einstein occupies a position of genuine avataral significance.

II. Fields into which Einstein has penetrated.

- A. Science
- B. Religion (Cosmic Religion)
- C. Social relationships.
 - 1. Militant pacifism
 - 2. International comradeship of intellectuals.
 - a. Force to break down barriers of prejudice.
 - 3. Zionism
- D. Art - Music.

III. Science.

- A. The scientific stage Einstein enters.
 - 1. X-rays.
 - 2. Radio-activity.
 - 3. Atom composed of electrons and protons.
 - 4. Newtonian dynamics fail in intra-atomic relationships.
 - 5. Matter explained in terms of electricity.
 - 6. Transformation of elements.
 - 7. Quantum theory and notion of energetic corpuscles.
 - a. Involves instantaneous, discrete steps in space.
 - 8. Material points interpreted as wave systems.
 - 9. Theory of indeterminacy.
 - a. Scientific laws become statistical statements.
 - 10. Ultimate physical conceptions reduced to mathematical equations.
- B. Theory of relativity.
 - 1. Experiments relative to passage of earth through ether.
 - a. Contradictory results showed nearness of revolution in physical concepts.
 - 2. Einstein's abandonment of absolute space and time
 - 3. Time and space such that velocity of light constant.
 - 4. Consequences.
 - a. Space, time and mass separately show no constancy.
 - b. Space-time continuum takes place of space and time.
 - c. Energy and mass interchangeable.
 - d. No absolute simultaneity.
 - e. No single plane separating future and past from all men.
 - f. In place of matter and energy as constants we have only events or action.
 - g. Warped space.
 - h. Gravity becomes movements in straight line in warped space.
 - i. All physical properties may become reduced to metrical properties of space-time continuum.
- C. Significance of relativity.
 - 1. Abandonment of mechanistic view of universe.
 - 2. Approach toward cosmology of SD

IV. Religion.

A. The three religious stages.

1. Religion of fear.
2. Moral religion.
3. Cosmic religion
 - a. This is fundamentally the standpoint of Buddhism.
 - b. Replaces anthropomorphic God with universal principle
 - c. Human desires vain.
 - d. Individual destiny imprisonment
 - e. Realization of totality of existence as unity full of significance.
 - f. Function of science and art to keep alive cosmic religious sense.

V. Militant pacifism.

- A. Betrayal of spirit to use achievements of science to destroy men.
- B. War and the military way of thinking wholly indefensible.
- C. The dictatorial principle involves degeneration.
- D. Practical program.
 1. Pledge of non-participation in war.
 - a. Intelligent men to refuse to support military action directly or indirectly.
 2. Peace service ~~for war~~ involving danger for war-resisters.

VI. Personal statement.

- A. Real conflict today not between nations but between civilization and barbarism.
 1. Military thinking is barbarism.