An Essay of the Day

It's Never too Late to Live
By Dr. Brian Welbeck

SOME of us are haunted by Thoreau's saying: "The mass of men lead lives of quiet desperation." We grind on through each day, weighed down by the fear of insecurity, the burden of responsibility. Above all, we chain ourselves to a job—any job—which will promise some measure of security in old age. In their eagerness for stability, we rob ourselves of the spirit of adventure and of worthwhile living.

We have grasped at our true personality that we may have a bag of gold; sold our souls for thirty pieces of silver. As Jim Tully said: "As we go on in life, little by little we get lost." Darwin lamented that his thirst for scientific knowledge killed the musical appreciation which had enriched his youth. The world is so full of a number of things we should all be happy as kings. Are we wise? And why do we have to say no? Because we have squandered the wealth of the world, of the rewarding enthusiasm.

How is this to be avoided? There are four fundamental rules which I have found have helped many of us:

1. REUSE TO BECOME A SLAVE TO YOUR JOB.
2. USE YOUR LIFE NOT AS A MOUTHFUL OF COMFORT, BUT AS A NAPPE OF PEACE AND A MINOR SLEEPING PILLOW.
3. DEVELOP YOUR TALENTS.
4. NEVER BE AFRAID OF NEW ADVENTURES, AT ANY AGE.

A young man, with a mind of his own, is a problem. He can be used as a tool, or as a weapon. But he must learn to use it wisely. The world is full of things that are not necessary but are useful. The wise man is the one who knows how to use them.

(Slightly abridged)

Learning to Read Quickly

Courses in quick reading are now held at all colleges and universities in the United States. As political and business life becomes more complicated, the ability to read quickly increases. We are now all called upon to keep up with the ever-increasing volume of written matter.

One of the main training methods is the use of a piece of apparatus called a tachistoscope. This is a screen which slides down the printed page at a set speed, so compelling the reader to keep pace with it. As the efficiency of the reader in "digesting" his material improves, the speed of the screen is increased to as much as 1,800 words a minute.

Dance in Rome

Rome has hundreds of statues and busts, and memorial plaques honouring great men of the past; but it has no monument to Dante (1265-1321), greatest of Italian poets.

The sitter of Rome was shocked when this was pointed out recently, and so a campaign has begun to raise a memorial.

Answers to Triple Play:

1. pick 10; 2. give him 10; 3. give him 10; 4. give him 10; 5. give him 10; 6. give him 10; 7. give him 10; 8. give him 10; 9. give him 10; 10. give him 10; 11. give him 10; 12. give him 10; 13. give him 10; 14. give him 10; 15. give him 10; 16. give him 10; 17. give him 10; 18. give him 10; 19. give him 10;