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THE DISCOVERY OF THE FUTURE

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The Discovery Of The Future

Wells begins by distinguishing between "two divergent types of mind," one that judges and attaches importance principally to what has happened in the past and one that judges and attaches importance principally to what will happen in the future. To the former he attributes the adjectives "legal or submissive," "passive," and "oriental," and to the latter the adjectives "legislative, creative, organizing, or masterful," and "active," calling it "a more modern and much less abundant type of mind."^[3]

Observing that these two minds reach "divergent and incompatible consequences" in the spheres of morality and public affairs, Wells analyzes the reasons for which the past-oriented mind predominates and asserts that this is principally due to the evidently greater knowability of the personal past as compared to the future. But he argues that the inference from this attitude that the future is essentially unknowable does not square with "modern science, that is to say the relentless systematic criticism of phenomena."^[4]

Not only has science made us knowledgeable about a distant, impersonal past, it also regards the ability successfully to predict to be a criterion of validity. Though the unpredictability of human behavior

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THE DISCOVERY OF THE FUTURE

The Discovery of the Future

Author H. G. Wells

The Discovery of the Future: A Discourse Delivered to the Royal Institution on January 24, 1902

Country United Kingdom

Language English

Subject Future

Genre Philosophical literature

Publisher T. Fisher Unwin

Publication date 1902

Pages 95

ISBN N/A

Preceded by *Anticipations*

Followed by *The Sea Lady*

The Discovery of the Future is a 1902 philosophical lecture by H. G. Wells that argues for the knowability of the future. It was originally delivered to the Royal Institution on January 24, 1902. Before appearing in book form, it was published by Richard Gregory in *Nature* on February 6, 1902,^[1] and was also published as part of the *Annual Report* of the Smithsonian Institution.^[2]

SYNOPSIS

Wells begins by distinguishing between "two divergent types of mind," one that judges and attaches importance principally to what has happened in the past and one that judges and attaches importance principally to what will happen in the future. To the former he attributes the adjectives "legal or submissive," "passive," and "oriental," and to the latter the adjectives "legislative, creative, organizing, or masterful," and "active," calling it "a more modern and much less abundant type of mind."^[3]

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It was originally delivered to the Royal Institution on January 24, 1902. Before appearing in book form, it was published by Richard Gregory in *Nature* on February 6, 1902 and was included in *The Future in America: A Search After Realities* is a 1906 travel essay by H. G. Wells recounting his impressions from the first of half a dozen visits he would make to the United States. The book consists of fifteen chapters and a concluding "envoy". *An Englishman Looks at the World* is a 1914 essay collection by H. G. Wells containing journalistic pieces written between 1909 and 1914. "Locomotion in the twentieth century", *Fortnightly Review*, 69 (1901), pp. 747–60, at p. 747 n. 2. Wells's outline of how the future should be studied was presented in Wells, *The discovery of the future: a discourse delivered to the Royal Institution on January 24, 1902* (London, 1902). Wells was of course not completely opposed to literary investigations of future events, and authored two of the most influential and 44 See, for example, Echevarria, Antulio J. II, *Imagining future war: the west's technological revolution and visions of wars to come, 1880–1914* (Westport, CT, and London, 2007), p. 96; and Freedman, Lawrence, *The future of war: a history* (London, 2017), p. xvii. When the French physicist Pierre Curie (1859-1906) turned 35 years old, he was already a well-known scientist. He belonged to interesting discoveries in the field of physics of the crystalline state of matter and the piezoelectric effect, the magnetic properties of substances at high temperatures. A regular change in the properties of paramagnetic substances from temperature bears his name. Buy *The Discovery of the Future: A Discourse Delivered to the Royal Institution on January 24, 1902* by H G 1866-1946 Wells online on Amazon.ae at best prices. ✓ Fast and free shipping ✓ free returns ✓ cash on delivery available on eligible purchase. The problem Wells saw is, "The legal type of mind would obey the past unhesitatingly, the creative would unhesitatingly sacrifice it to the future . . . The legal mind becomes glorified and transfigured in the form of hopeless loyalty, the creative mind inspires revolutions and reconstructions." Are politics and society any different now? We need to face the danger of upholding tired old customs in the face a new realities.