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How futile the old arguments seem in view of these astonishing developments in scientific thought. It is time we brought our minds into line with the progress of science and gave up the meaningless controversies of an age gone by. It is true that science changes, and there is nothing dogmatic or final about it. But the method of science does not change, and it is to that we must adhere in our thought and activities, in research, in social life, political and economic life, in religion. We may be specks of dust on a soap bubble universe, but that speck of dust contained something that was the mind and spirit of man. Through the ages this has grown and made itself master of the earth and drawn power from its innermost bowels as well as from the thunderbolt in the skies. It has tried to fathom the secrets of the universe and brought the vagaries of nature itself to its use. More wonderful than the earth and the heavens is this mind and spirit of man which grows ever mightier and seeks fresh worlds to conquer.

That is the task of the scientist, but we know that all scientists are not fashioned in the heroic mould, nor are they the philosopher kings of whom Plato told us in the days of old Kingliness might not be theirs, but even philosophising is often lacking, and the day's task follows a narrow sphere and dull a routine. As they specialise and specialise they must, they lose sight of the larger picture and become pedants out of touch with reality. In our country the political conditions under which we have had the misfortune to live have further stunted their growth and prevented them from playing their rightful part in social progress. Fear has often gripped them, as it has gripped so many others in the past, lest by any activity or thought of theirs they might anger the Government of the day and thus endanger their security and position. It is not under these conditions that science flourishes scientists prosper. Science requires a free environment to grow. When applied to social purposes, it requires a social objective in keeping with its method and the spirits of the age.

Questions

1. What must we adhere to in our thought and activities? Why?
2. What is the most wonderful thing in the speck of dust known as man?
3. What factors have prevented scientists in our country from being useful to society?
4. Under what conditions science can flourish?

Comprehension (Para-3)

Q. 1. What must we adhere to in our thoughts and activities? why?

Ans. We must adhere to, in our thoughts and activities, the knowledge of Science. We ^{should} think upon scientific progress and come out of outdated ideas. The knowledge of science changes with respect to time but the method of acquiring and applying remains same. We must adhere to it; otherwise, we would be lost in the hustles of the Universe.

Q. 2. What is the most wonderful thing in the speck of dust known as man?

Ans. The most wonderful thing in the speck of dust is the mind and spirit of man. Man has explored and conquered the vast intricacies of the Universe through his intelligence and wisdom. This spirit develops day-by-day to reach new horizons of success and nobility. That's why it is stronger and wonderful than mighty universe.

Q3. What factors have prevented scientists in our country from being useful to society?

Ans. Political condition is one of the few factors that have prevented scientists in our country from being useful to society. The law and order situation has further worsened the growth of these eminent scientists. Everytime, they fear that their actions and progress in society might be the source of wrath in the politicians owing to their votebank. This poses a serious threat to the lives and works of scientists.

Science conditions

Q4. Under what ↑ can flourish?

Ans. Science As we know that the knowledge of science is based upon observations and experimentations. An experiment can be conducted successfully only when favorable environment is given. Moreover, science can be useful only to society when it meets the social requirements such as improving living standards, inflation control. In short, it can be said that science can flourish only when scientists are given a free hand with minimum transgression of by politicians.