



THE POCKET CHESTERTON



QUOTES FOR EVERYONE
ON EVERY SUBJECT

G.K. CHESTERTON

Selections by Dale Ahlquist

A Pocket Chesterton: Quotes for Everyone on Every Subject was created because more and more people want to learn about G.K. Chesterton. Many wish they could attend some kind of Chesterton school. Some folks actually started a Chesterton school called Chesterton Academy, the model of which is expanding all over the world. The need to read Chesterton has never been more obvious. The audience is growing bigger.

The subjects considered for this educational guide are the same as found in any college catalogue: everything and everything else. The challenge before us also remains the same: articulating the truth in a world that hates it, avoids it, belittles it, brushes it aside, relativizes it, misunderstands it, ignores it, abuses it, disbelieves it, scoffs at it, hungers for it—and accomplishing this in as few words as possible due to an entire culture that suffers from a short attention span.

As you find out more about Chesterton, we wish you joy in the journey. Reading Chesterton opens up a whole new world of common sense.

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INTRODUCTION: ABOUT OUR PATRON, G.K. CHESTERTON

Gilbert Keith Chesterton (1874-1936) cannot be summed up in one sentence. Nor in one paragraph. In fact, in spite of the fine biographies that have been written of him, he has never been captured between the covers of one book. But we'll try to be brief here.

Born in London, G.K. Chesterton was educated at St. Paul's, and then went to art school. In 1900, he was asked to contribute a few magazine articles on art criticism, and went on to become one of the most prolific writers of all time.

He wrote a hundred books, contributions to 200 more, hundreds of poems, including the epic *Ballad of the White Horse*, five plays, five novels, and some two hundred short stories, including a popular series featuring the priest-detective, Father Brown. In spite of his literary accomplishments, he considered himself primarily a journalist.

This man who composed such profound and perfect lines as "The Christian ideal has not been tried and found wanting; it has been found difficult and left untried," stood 6'4" and weighed about 300 pounds, usually had a cigar in his mouth, and walked around wearing a cape and a crumpled hat, tiny glasses pinched to the end of his nose, swordstick in hand, laughter blowing through his mustache.

He did much of his writing in train stations, since he usually missed the train he was supposed to catch. In one famous anecdote, he wired his wife Frances, saying, “Am at Market Harborough. Where ought I to be?” His faithful Frances attended to all the details of his life, since he continually proved he had no way of doing it himself. Frances was the woman he could not do without, he depended on her for his every happiness.

This absent-minded, overgrown elf of a man, who laughed at his own jokes and amused children at birthday parties by catching buns in his mouth, this was the man who wrote a book called *The Everlasting Man*, which led a young atheist named C.S. Lewis to become a Christian. This was the man who wrote a novel called *The Napoleon of Notting Hill*, which inspired Michael Collins to lead a movement for Irish Independence. This was the man who wrote an essay in the *Illustrated London News* that inspired Mohandas Gandhi to lead a movement to end British colonial rule in India.

His writings have been praised by many famous writers, including Orson Welles who called his prose “shamelessly beautiful.” T.S. Eliot said that Chesterton “deserves a permanent claim on our loyalty.”

Chesterton argued eloquently against all the trends that eventually took over the 20th century: materialism, scientific determinism, moral relativism, and spineless agnosticism. He also argued against both socialism and capitalism and showed why they have both been the enemies of freedom and justice in modern society.

What was it he defended? He defended the common man and common sense. He defended the poor. He defended the family. He defended beauty. And he defended Christianity and the Catholic Faith.

We're working to ensure that Chesterton is taught in more schools. Why? You cannot consider yourself educated until you have read Chesterton. And furthermore, reading Chesterton is almost a complete education in itself.

Chesterton is indeed a teacher, and the best kind. He broadens your view and deepens it. He sheds light on everything. He doesn't merely astonish you. He doesn't just perform the wonder of making you think, he performs the great service of making you laugh.

The truth, after all, should not depress us, it should bring us joy.

A POCKET CHESTERTON:
Quotes for Everyone on Every Subject

The School of Chesterton

“The object of my school is to show how many extraordinary things even a lazy and ordinary man may see if he can spur himself to the single activity of seeing.”

–Tremendous Trifles

“The aim of life is appreciation; there is no sense in not appreciating things; and there is no sense in having more of them if you have less appreciation of them.”

–Autobiography

“I am not allowed in these columns to discuss politics or religion, which is inconvenient; as they are the only two subjects which seem to me to have the slightest element of interest for a sane man.”

–Illustrated London News, April 7, 1906

Entrance Requirements

“Let the common man bend more of his attention, more at least than he is doing at present, to the preservation of some permanent reason for living, some permanent thing worth fighting for. Let him take care of his philosophy, and his civilization will take care of itself.”

–*Illustrated London News*, August 4, 1906

“We should always endeavor to wonder at the permanent thing, not at the mere exception. We should be startled by the sun, and not by the eclipse. We should wonder less at the earthquake, and wonder more at the earth.”

–*Illustrated London News*, October 21, 1905

“The most dangerous thing in the world is to be alive; one is always in danger of one’s life. But anyone who shrinks from this is a traitor to the great scheme and experiment of being.”

–*The Apostle and the Wild Ducks*

Departments and Course Guide

Accounting

“Up my lads and lift the ledgers,
Sleep and ease are o’er.
Hear the Stars of Morning shouting:
‘Two and Two are four.’”

–*Tremendous Trifles*

“A woman cooking may not always cook artistically; still she can cook artistically. She can introduce a personal and imperceptible variation into the composition of a soup. The clerk is not encouraged to introduce a personal and imperceptible variation into the figures in a ledger.”

–*All Things Considered*

Agriculture

“The Republic is founded on the plough.”

–*Alarms and Discursions*

“Food such as we eat in civilised times and with civilised digestions, food, in this sense, contains the seeds of death almost as much as the seeds of life.”

–*Illustrated London News*, December 8, 1906

“What is wrong with the man in the modern town is that he does not know the causes of things...He does not know where things come from; he is the type of the cultivated Cockney who said he likes milk out of a clean shop and not a dirty cow.”

–*The Outline of Sanity*

Anthropology

“There has been a somewhat disproportionate disposition, in popular science, to turn the study of human beings into the study of savages. And savagery is not history; it is either the beginning of history or the end of it.”

–*St. Thomas Aquinas*

“Every student of prehistoric man has his own stone axe to grind.”

–*Illustrated London News*, September 10, 1927

“Man is an exception, whatever else he is. If he is not the image of God, then he is a disease of the dust. If it is not true that a divine being fell, then we can only say that one of the animals went entirely off its head...Man is always something worse or something better than an animal; and a mere argument from animal perfection never touches him at all. Thus, in sex no animal is either chivalrous or obscene. And thus no animal ever invented anything so bad as drunkenness—or so good as drink.”

–*All Things Considered*

Architecture

“There is an almost infinite variety of meanings which can be expressed by windows and pillars and all other forms of artistic workmanship—but they have their indwelling limitations. They cannot express darkness in a window or surrender in a column of stone.”

–*Lunacy and Letters*

“You cannot build a Gothic Cathedral with servile labour. People who want to work in that way must put up with the Pyramids and the Eiffel Tower.”

–*The Spice of Life*

“It is the main earthly business of a human being to make his home, and the immediate surroundings of his home, as symbolic and significant to his own imagination as he can.”

–*The Coloured Lands*

Art

“Art is the signature of man.”

–*The Everlasting Man*

“Art is born when the temporary touches the eternal; the shock of beauty is when the irresistible force hits the immovable post.”

–*Fancies vs. Fads*

“Man creates in his capacity of the image of God; and he is in nothing so much the image of God as in creating images.”

–*Illustrated London News*, November 23, 1929

“Art, like morality, consists of drawing the line somewhere.”

–*Illustrated London News*, May 5, 1928

Astronomy

“The sky is astonishing everywhere and should alone keep all men from materialism and indifference.”

–*The Resurrection of Rome*

“I was frightfully fond of the universe and wanted to address it by a diminutive. I often did so; and it never seemed to mind.”

–*Orthodoxy*

“We may scale the heavens and find new stars innumerable, but there is still the new star we have not found—that one on which we were born.”

–*The Defendant*

Biology

“I deny that biology can destroy the sense of truth, which alone can even desire biology. No truth which I can find can deny that I am seeking the truth. My mind cannot find anything which denies my mind.”

–*Tales of the Long Bow*

“When first the giraffe was described by travellers it was treated as a lie. Now it is in the Zoological Gardens; but it still looks like a lie.”

–*Illustrated London News*, October 21, 1911

“In so far as God has partly revealed to us an angelic world, he has partly told us what an angel means. But God has never told us what a turkey means. And if you go and stare at a live turkey for an hour or two, you will find by the end of it that the enigma has rather increased than diminished.”

–*All Things Considered*

Business

“If people cannot mind their own business it cannot be more economical to pay them to mind each other’s business; and still less to mind each other’s babies; it is simply throwing away a natural force and then paying for an artificial force: as if a man were to water a plant with a hose while holding up an umbrella to protect it from the rain.”

–*The Superstition of Divorce*

“The business world needs metaphysics—to simplify it.”

–*The Common Man*

“The rock bottom reality on which everything rests is the ploughed field or the plot of vegetables; and these could do without Business better than Business could do without them.”

–*G.K.’s Weekly*, March 8, 1930

Chemistry

“If chemicals had a power of choice, it would be impossible to be certain that a chemical experiment would come off. It often doesn’t come off even now. If a chemical element had ever been in a state of indecision, it would be impossible to predict what it would do. If an acid ever prayed not to be led into temptation, chemistry would not be an exact science.”

–*Illustrated London News*, Apr.19, 1913

“We can prophesy about these things because they are dead. We cannot prophesy about twenty million people who will be alive when we are dead. They will have the mixed motives, the sudden reactions, the conscious prejudices, the desperate choice of the less of two evils, that we all know in our private lives—in short, they will be human beings.”

–*Illustrated London News*, April 19, 1913

“The combination of a man and a woman may be, and indeed is, a dangerous chemical combination; frequently resulting in an explosion.”

–*Illustrated London News*, June 12, 1909

Civil Engineering

“We must remember there is only one joyful engineer to a thousand bored victims of engineering.”

–*The Outline of Sanity*

Computer Science

“There is just one faint, lingering, and elusive difficulty about the creation of a Thinking Machine. It is a contradiction in terms. The same subtle embarrassment hovers over us when we talk about a Round Triangle or a Silent Noise.”

–*Illustrated London News*, December 3, 1927

“There are those who maintain that there is something that is both Yes and No. I do not know whether they pronounce it Yo.”

–*St. Thomas Aquinas*

“No Machine can lie,” said Father Brown, “nor can it tell the truth.”

–The Mistake of the Machine, *The Complete Father Brown*

“I often stare at windows.”

–*The Poet and the Lunatics*

Cosmology

“Whatever is cosmic is comic.”

–*All Things Considered*

“If the cosmos is unreal, there is nothing to think about.”

–*Orthodoxy*

“You should not look a gift universe in the mouth.”

–*Gilbert Keith Chesterton* (by Maisie Ward)

Drama

“What is the theatre? First and last, and above all things, it is a festival.”

–*Lunacy and Letters*

“The dispute that goes on between Macbeth and his wife about the murder of Duncan is almost word for word a dispute which goes on at any suburban breakfast-table about something else. It is merely a matter of changing Infirm of purpose, give me the daggers, into Infirm of purpose, give me the postage stamps.”

–*The Spice of Life*

“The philosophical upshot of most modern plays is that if two married people moon about in large rooms all day long, it is highly probable that they will get on each other’s nerves.”

–*A Handful of Authors*

Economics

“Property is merely the art of democracy.”

–*What’s Wrong with the World*

“If property is a bad thing, nobody should have it; if property is a good thing, everybody should have it.”

–*Illustrated London News*, November 29, 1919

“The unpopularity of theft implies the popularity of property.”

–*Illustrated London News*, August 22, 1925

Education

“Obviously it ought to be the oldest things that are taught to the youngest people; the assured and experienced truths that are put first to the baby. But in a school today the baby has to submit to a system that is younger than himself. The flopping infant of four actually has more experience, and has weathered the world longer than the dogma to which he is made to submit.”

–*What’s Wrong with the World*

“I have nothing but general information; but it is fairly general. What surprises me in people younger, brighter, and more progressively educated than myself is that their general information is very sketchy.”

–*Illustrated London News*, July 18, 1932

“The one thing that is never taught by any chance in the atmosphere of public schools is this: that there is a whole truth of things, and that in knowing it and speaking it we are happy.”

–*All Things Considered*

Electrical Engineering

“We have to go on using the Greek name of amber as the only name of electricity because we have no notion what is the real name or nature of electricity.”

–*The Common Man*

English

“There never was a fairer criticism, or a finer compliment, paid to a poet than that which was paid to the first English poet by the first English printer. Caxton wrote of Chaucer: ‘He has no void words’; and it is the best maxim or ideal for all the writers of English.”

–*Illustrated London News*, December 12, 1931

Ethics

“Men do not differ much about what things they will call evils; they differ enormously about what evils they will call excusable.”

–*Illustrated London News*, October 23, 1909

“The act of defending any of the cardinal virtues today has all the exhilaration of a vice.”

–*The Defendant*

“To have a right to do a thing is not at all the same as to be right in doing it.”

–*A Short History of England*

Finance

“Forged bank-notes mean nothing if there are no real bank-notes.”

–*A Miscellany of Men*

“There is this great difference between economics and finance, as they call it, that economics may be a dull story, but it is a story; an

account of what happened: whereas finance largely consists of things that don't happen. Economics turns a penny into a penny bun; but finance turns it into a penny promise.”

–*New Witness*, September 23, 1915

“I could do a great many things before I came to a definitely anti-social action like robbing a bank or (worse still) working in a bank.”

–*The Outline of Sanity*

Foreign Languages

“It is a fair general rule...that the easiest way of talking in a foreign language is to talk philosophy. The most difficult kind of talking is to talk about common necessities...Refrain, therefore, your exuberant admiration for the young man who can argue with six French atheists when he first lands at Dieppe. Even I can do that. But very likely the same young man does not know the French for shoe-horn.”

–*Tremendous Trifles*

Geology

“They delight in dealing with what my grandfather would have called the Testimony of the Rocks; the geological record of natural development; and they often treat fossils and similar traces as if they were sacred hieroglyphics, by which some priesthood had symbolised the secret of the universe.”

–*The Wells and the Shallows*

“They continue to demonstrate the Darwinian theory from the geological record, by means of all the fossils that ought to be found in it. They will even explain luminously why the geological evidence does not apparently exist; and they seem to think that this is quite as convincing as if it did exist.”

–*The Wells and the Shallows*

“Sometimes the professor with his bone becomes almost as dangerous as a dog with his bone.”

–*The Everlasting Man*

Government

“All government is an ugly necessity.”

–*A Short History of England*

“If the citizen finds himself despoiled of such pleasures and powers as he would have had even in the savage stage, the social contract is annulled.”

–*The Ball and the Cross*

“Those who complain of our creeds as elaborate often forget that the elaborate Western creeds have produced the elaborate Western constitutions; and that they are elaborate because they are emancipated.”

–*The New Jerusalem*

History

“If you wish to find the past preserved, follow the million feet of the crowd.”

–*Tremendous Trifles*

“There are two quite distinct purposes of history; the superior purpose, which is its use for children; and the secondary or inferior purpose, which is its use for historians. The highest and noblest thing that history can be is a good story.”

–*Illustrated London News*, October 8, 1910

“About half the history now taught in schools and colleges is made windy and barren by the narrow notion of leaving out the theological theories...Historians seem to have completely forgotten two facts—first, that men act from ideas; and second, that it might, therefore, be as well to discover which ideas.”

–*Illustrated London News*, May 13, 1911

Hydraulic Engineering

“It is wrong to fiddle while Rome is burning, but it is quite right to study the theory of hydraulics while Rome is burning.”

–*What's Wrong with the World*

Journalism

“Journalism largely consists in saying ‘Lord Jones is Dead’ to people who never knew that Lord Jones was alive.”

–The Purple Wig, *The Complete Father Brown*

“I have a notion that the real advice I could give to a young journalist is simply this: to write an article for the Sporting times and one for the Church Times and put them in the wrong envelopes... What is really the matter with almost every paper, is that it is much too full of things suitable to the paper.”

–*Autobiography*

“It is one of the journalist’s tragedies that whenever he introduces a thing purely as an impossibility, someone writes to say that it really occurred. If I use a foolish metaphor at random I generally receive two letters—one complaining that the thing is too violent and absurd, the other saying that it happened to the writer’s aunt.”

–*Illustrated London News*, September 22, 1906

Language

“What is the good of words if they aren’t important enough to quarrel over? Why do we choose one word more than another if there isn’t any difference between them? If you called a woman a chimpanzee instead of an angel, wouldn’t there be a quarrel about a word? If you’re not going to argue about words, what are you going to argue about? Are you going to convey your meaning to me by

moving your ears? The Church and the heresies always used to fight about words, because they are the only things worth fighting about.”

–*The Ball and the Cross*

“Modern language—scientific, political, and journalistic—is not given to man to conceal his thoughts. It is given to him to conceal his thoughtlessness. Indeed, it makes him much more thoughtless than he would be by nature. Men are twisted out of the path of truth by the very terms they have to use.”

–*Illustrated London News*, March 18, 1919

“We are struggling and entangled in a fallen language, like men in the folds of a fallen tent.”

–*Illustrated London News*, December 24, 1910

Law

“When you break the big laws, you do not get liberty; you do not even get anarchy. You get the small laws.”

–*Daily News*, July 29, 1905

“It is shorter to state the things forbidden than the things permitted, precisely because most things are permitted and only a few things are forbidden.”

–*Illustrated London News*, January 3, 1920

“A wall is like a rule; and the gates are like exceptions that prove the rule. The man making it cannot have a city that is all gates any

more than a house that is all windows; nor is it possible to have a law that consists entirely of liberties.”

–*The New Jerusalem*

Literature

“There are twenty minor poets who can describe fairly impressively an eternity of agony; there are very few even of the eternal poets who can describe ten minutes of satisfaction.”

–*Chesterton on Dickens*

“It is the business of the author to explain himself.”

–*Illustrated London News*, June 6, 1931

“A good novel tells us the truth about its hero; but a bad novel tells us the truth about its author. It does much more than that, it tells us the truth about its readers.”

–*Heretics*

Logic

“Briefly, you can only find truth with logic if you have already found truth without it.”

–*Daily News*, February 25, 1905

“There is no sense in reasoning with a man who denies any validity in reason.”

–*Christendom in Dublin*

“The poet only asks to get his head into the heavens. It is the logician who seeks to get the heavens into his head. And it is his head that splits.”

–*Orthodoxy*

Mathematics

“Poetry is only the algebra of life; passion is its arithmetic.”

–*A Handful of Authors*

“There is a common idea that mathematics is a dull subject, whereas the testimony of all those who have any dealings with it shows that it is one of the most thrilling and tantalizing and enchanting subjects in the world.”

–*Lunacy and Letters*

“Sherlock Holmes is described as being incapable of falling in love because of his logical nature. You might as well say that he could not be expected to have much appetite for lunch because of his proficiency in mathematics.”

–*Illustrated London News*, June 27, 1931

Mechanical Engineering

“The wrong is not that engines are too much admired, but that they are not admired enough. The sin is not that engines are mechanical, but that men are mechanical.”

–*Heretics*

“There must in every machine be a part that moves and a part that stands still; there must be in everything that changes a part that is unchangeable.”

–*What’s Wrong with the World*

“It may be easier to get chocolate for nothing out of a shopkeeper than out of an automatic machine. But if you did manage to steal the chocolate, the automatic machine would be much less likely to run after you.”

–*The Ball and the Cross*

Medicine

“You do not cut a man open to find his sins. You do not boil him until he gives forth the unmistakable green fumes of depravity.”

–*All Things Considered*

“I want my private physician to tell me whether this or that food will kill me. It is for my private philosopher to tell me whether I ought to be killed.”

–*Illustrated London News*, September 28, 1907

“You can be an expert in disease. You cannot be an expert in health. Health is too large and free to be explored.”

–*Daily News*, July 6, 1912

Music

“Music is mere beauty; it is beauty in the abstract, beauty in solution. It is a shapeless and liquid element of beauty, in which a man may really float, not indeed affirming the truth, but not denying it.”

–*Chesterton on Shaw*

“The individualist can write a song; but not a song with a chorus.”

–*Sidelights*

“In the age of jazz and cocktails, men either write songs that could not possibly be sung, or leave off writing songs and write fragments of a demented diary instead.”

–*Illustrated London News*, April 22, 1933

Philosophy

“It is the only true object of existence to mean something.”

–*Illustrated London News*, November 11, 1905

“Reason itself is a matter of faith. It is an act of faith to assert that our thoughts have any relation to reality at all.”

–*Orthodoxy*

“Thinking means connecting things, and stops if they cannot be connected. It need hardly be said that this skepticism forbidding thought necessarily forbids speech; a man cannot open his mouth without contradicting it. Thus when Mr. Wells says (as he did

somewhere), ‘All chairs are quite different,’ he utters not merely a misstatement, but a contradiction in terms. If all chairs were quite different, you could not call them ‘all chairs.’”

–*Orthodoxy*

Physics

“Suppose everybody was instantly fined a small sum for mentioning the name of Einstein. The money would be refunded if he could afterwards demonstrate, to a committee of mathematicians and astronomers, that he knew anything about Einstein.”

–*Illustrated London News*, May 30, 1931

“Even if men only want to understand Einstein, it is necessary first to understand the use of the understanding.”

–*St. Thomas Aquinas*

“...all depends on what is the philosophy of light.”

–*Heretics*

Political Science

“The aim of all human polity is happiness. There is no obligation to be richer, or busier, or more efficient, or more productive, or more progressive, or in any way worldlier or wealthier, if it does not make us happy.”

–*The Outline of Sanity*

“What exactly is liberty? First and foremost, surely, it is the power of a thing to be itself.”

–*The Poet and the Lunatics*

“The next revolution is always perfect.”

–*G.K.’s Weekly*, September 22, 1928

Psychology

“‘Don’t you know what psychology means?’ asked Flambeau with friendly surprise. ‘Psychology means being off your chump.’”

–The Honour of Israel Gow, *The Complete Father Brown*

“The Lunatic does not say he is as wise as Shakespeare; Bernard Shaw might say that. The lunatic says he *is* Shakespeare.”

–*Eugenics and Other Evils*

“The self is more distant than any star.”

–*Orthodoxy*

Science

“Science must not impose any philosophy, any more than the telephone must tell us what to say.”

–*Illustrated London News*, October 9, 1909

“Some say that Science says this or that; when they only mean scientists, and do not know or care which scientists.”

–*Illustrated London News*, November 2, 1929

“Science finds its facts in Nature, but Science is not Nature; because Science has co-ordinated ideas, interpretations and analyses; and can say of Nature what Nature cannot say for itself. The faith finds its facts and problems in humanity, even heathen humanity; but the Faith is not merely humanity; because it brings to it principles of life and order and understanding, and comprehends humanity as humanity cannot comprehend itself.”

–*Illustrated London News*, February 24, 1906

“The rebuilding of this bridge between science and human nature is one of the greatest needs of mankind.”

–*The Defendant*

Sociology

“It is certainly a just and humane act to rescue any human being from having sociology taught to them.”

–*Illustrated London News*, April 24, 1909

“Our whole industrial society is cursed with sterility because it cannot create a custom. It can only create a fashion.”

–*Illustrated London News*, June 26, 1906

“Customs are generally unselfish. Habits are nearly always selfish.”

–*Illustrated London News*, January 11, 1908

Sports

“I entertain a private suspicion that physical sports were much more really effective and beneficent when they were not taken quite so seriously. One of the first essentials of sport being healthy is that it should be delightful; it is rapidly becoming a false religion with austerities and prostrations.”

–*Illustrated London News*, August 25, 1906

“Modern materialism is solemn about sports because it has no other rites to solemnize.”

–*Illustrated London News*, November 15, 1930

“Tennis was made for Man and not Man for Tennis.”

–*The Thing*

Theology

“We are fighting about God; there can be nothing so important as that.”

–*The Ball and the Cross*

“The word theological includes the word logical.”

–*Illustrated London News*, March 15, 1919

“Theology is only the element of reason in religion; the reason that prevents it from being a mere emotion.”

–*The Thing*

Urban Planning

“The modern city is ugly not because it is a city but because it is not enough of a city, because it is a jungle, because it is confused and anarchic, and surging with selfish and materialistic energies.”

–*Lunacy and Letters*

“People are naturally complaining nowadays that the Country is disappearing. In truth it is the town that is disappearing. The original and essential human thing called a Town has almost entirely disappeared in a sea of formless suburbanism.”

–*G.K.'s Weekly*, April 7, 1928

“The whole structural system of the suburban civilization is based on the case for having bathrooms and the case against having babies.”

–*G.K.'s Weekly*, July 6, 1929

Women's Studies

“The chief difference between the average man and the average woman is that the woman is a ruler and the man is not.”

–*Illustrated London News*, January 17, 1906

“How can it be a large career to tell other people's children about the Rule of Three, and a small career to tell one's own children about the universe?”

–*What's Wrong with the World*

“What is called the economic independence of women is the same as what is called the economic wage-slavery of men.”

–*Illustrated London News*, April 21, 1923

College Life

“If a thing is worth doing, it is worth doing badly.”

–*What’s Wrong with the World*

“We should thank God for beer and Burgundy by not drinking too much of them.”

–*Orthodoxy*

“The object of opening the mind, as of opening the mouth, is to shut it again on something solid.”

–*Autobiography*

A Pocket Chesterton: Quotes for Everyone on Every Subject

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