

How come it took so long to get started?

By Fred Slipper



The other day on the radio I heard someone discussing some kind of fossil that had been unearthed, and the remark was made that this helped explain what occurred thousands of years ago.

This got me to thinking that the old world must have gone through hundreds of years without many changes taking place. I am saying this because look at all the really big changes that have taken place in just the last one hundred years.

Look at how our transportation has changed. It wasn't too long ago that our pioneers came west by wagon train. And we call them "pioneers" although this was only a couple of hundred of years ago.

I remember when the first home radio sets were invented. The first one my folks had was really considered a marvel, but look at what we have today. That first set had a group of wet-cell batteries that took up at least eight square feet, and we took turns listening through a head set. Now you can carry around a transistor that will fit in your pocket!!!

And how about television??? This is really new, with the first home sets coming out about thirty five years ago. They were really bulky compared to what we can buy today.

Speaking of new things being developed reminds me of something that happened when I was first out of school. This was before the war (World War II, that is) and like a lot of young fellows I didn't have much idea what I wanted to do, and besides there weren't many jobs available if you didn't have a specialized field, which I didn't.

To get to the point, I worked in down-town Seattle, and rode the bus to work, not having a car in those days. An older fellow (about my age now) used to give me a ride now and then, and one day he made the remark if he was young and just starting out he would get into the plastic business, as he thought this was the coming thing. I didn't think too much of it at the time, as not too many things were made of plastic, but look how right he was!!! Just take a look around today and see how many things are made of plastic. So much for hindsight.

Getting back to the first of my story....Columbus discovered America less than five hundred years ago, and look at all the things that have been invented and developed since then. Therefore when the scientists talk of finding something that dates back thousands of years it makes me think not too much new happened previous to the time Columbus arrived here.

Hope you have followed my line of thinking - letters giving your theories and ideas would be welcome....