

employer had purchased." Now these were strong words that H. G. Wells said in this article. When I read the first part of it that nothing of importance ever happened in Palestine, I thought what a clear evidence of tremendous bias. Nothing of any importance ever happened in Palestine? Well as a student of civilization and the history of ~~vi~~ civilization, Wells must recognize that monotheistic religion has had a great influence in the world even though he doesn't believe it at all. It certainly is a great force of importance in the world and has been for many centuries. And the 3 grt. monotheistic religions --- there are three, Judaism and Christianity both began in Palestine, and the third one Islam is based in many regards upon events that occurred in Palestine. So it is ridiculous to say that nothing of any importance ever happened in Palestine.

But then beyond that, Wells as a student of civilization would certainly recognize that alphabetic writing has been a tremendously important factor in the advancement of civilization. Now the ancient Egyptians wrote in hieroglyphics and we have the pictures ^{what} hundreds of them, and from those pictures one can study the pictures and learn from ^{they said} them but it is cumbersome; it takes a long time to learn, and if you have no more artistic ability than I have, it is very -- it takes a very long time to write them so that others can even recognize them. In Babylonia they wrote in cuneiform writing. They have 300 common signs; many other less common signs. Some represent syllables, some represent words, some represent ideas. It is a cumbersome system that takes a very long time to learn. Both of these systems can be useful ---- used for the spread of knowledge, but how much simpler it is when you have a system in which a letter stands for a sound and each sound is represented by a letter. Spanish I think is more or less like that. They say that a Mexican child can learn to read as well in a year as an American can in two or three yrs. because in their language you look at a word and you pronounce it in the way it is written. In our language ~~and you~~ you look at a word and you ask somebody how to pronounce it because almost any letter in English can be pronounced in several different way. But English is based on alphabetic systems, and with all its defects it is far easier to learn than cuneiform or hieroglyphics. ~~EXPLAIN~~ Certainly alphabetic writing is a tremendously important factor in civilization and