

Re: Quote on Acceptance of a New Theory When the Last Generation Dies

Source: <http://sci.tech-archive.net/Archive/sci.physics/2007-02/msg03634.html>

- *From:* "W. Watson" <wolf_tracks@xxxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Fri, 23 Feb 2007 21:11:09 GMT
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Well, something didn't quite ring true with the quote. It is by Planck, but here's the version I sought. "A new scientific truth does not triumph by convincing its opponents and making them see the light, but rather because its opponents eventually die, and a new generation grows up that is familiar with it."

The difference is not completely unexpected. Often authors, lecturers, and public speakers adjust their statements over time. Mark Twain is certainly one of these. If one looks at some compilations of his quotes, they are sometimes organized to show this.

W. Watson wrote:

Thanks very much. I guess Androcles is still working on getting the thorn out of the Lion's foot.

John C. Polasek wrote:

On Fri, 23 Feb 2007 11:03:51 GMT, "W. Watson" <wolf_tracks@xxxxxxxxxxx> wrote:

Anyone remember more exactly the quote hint in the Subject line, and who said it?

Wayne T. Watson (Watson Adventures, Prop., Nevada City, CA)
(121.015 Deg. W, 39.262 Deg. N) GMT-8 hr std. time)
Obz Site: 39° 15' 7" N, 121° 2' 32" W, 2700 feet

"It is important to realize that in physics today, we have no knowledge of what energy is ... It is an abstract thing ..." -- Richard Feynman

Max Planck: "It will be necessary first for the establishment to gradually die off, so that a growing generation might learn its principles from the beginning."

Wayne T. Watson (Watson Adventures, Prop., Nevada City, CA)

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