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I believe that wisdom should be our goal, but that, in the absence of wisdom, we are wise to fall back on enjoyment. To my mind, one of the most appalling things that could happen to the world would be to be ruled by unwise men who did not know how to enjoy themselves. Enjoyment, on the whole, makes for mutual tolerance, and those who stand aloof from all the common pleasures — who regard cricket and eating and drinking and cinema-going and novel-reading as a waste of time — have a way of making life very disagreeable for other people. How often an abstemious ruler becomes a tyrant! I am sure that Europe could be a far happier continent to-day if the head of every state had been taught in his youth the art of wasting time. Unfortunately, we have several rulers to-day who are themselves so indifferent to enjoyment that they are sincerely convinced that enjoyment is a disease from which their fellow-citizens must at all costs be saved. They live in a frenzy of seriousness for sixteen hours a day... If I were a philosopher, I would say: "Learn to waste your time wisely and you will at least have the satisfaction that you will do comparatively little harm."

Robert Lynd