

John Desmond Bernal Quotes

*Science, Simple, Men, Self, Art, Life, Atmosphere, Thinking, Country,
Independent, Would Be, Giving Up, Long, Sex, Successful, Detachment, Plato,
Writing, Western Culture, Distance*

It is characteristic of science that the full explanations are often seized in their essence by the percipient scientist long in advance of any possible proof.

~John Desmond Bernal

The present aristocracy of western culture, at the very moment when it most clearly dominates the world, is being imitated rapidly and successfully in every eastern country.

~John Desmond Bernal

Published papers may omit important steps and the memory of men of science, even the greatest, is sadly fallible.

~John Desmond Bernal

All that glitters may not be gold, but at least it contains free electrons.

~John Desmond Bernal

But if capitalism had built up science as a productive force, the very character of the new mode of production was serving to make capitalism itself unnecessary.

~John Desmond Bernal

The relevance of Marxism to science is that it removes it from its imagined position of complete detachment and shows it as a part, but a critically important part, of economy and social development.

~John Desmond Bernal

The beauty of life is, therefore, geometrical beauty of a type that Plato would have much appreciated.

~John Desmond Bernal

The greater the man, the more he is soaked in the atmosphere of his time; only thus can he get a wide enough grasp of it to be able to change substantially the pattern of knowledge and action.

~John Desmond Bernal

The only way of learning the method of science is the long and bitter way of personal experience.

~John Desmond Bernal

Life is a partial, continuous, progressive, multiform and conditionally interactive self-realization of the potentialities of atomic electron states.

~John Desmond Bernal

The full area of ignorance is not mapped. We are at present only exploring the fringes.

~John Desmond Bernal

We will have to give up taking things for granted, even the apparently simple things.

~John Desmond Bernal

Men will not be content to manufacture life: they will want to improve on it.

~John Desmond Bernal

The region of the mysterious is rapidly shrinking.

~John Desmond Bernal

We are still too close to the birth of the universe to be certain about its death.

~John Desmond Bernal

If science were communism, was it also not possible that communism could itself become a science?

~John Desmond Bernal

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