

Wednesday digest

August 29, 2012

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New today from the *Century*:

- Stephanie Paulsell on a [1930s photo project about the Shaker villages](#):
"Photographer Noel Vicentini captured the end of the Shaker paradise, Eden going to seed. He seemed especially interested in places of joining."
(subscription required)
- David Heim on [William Jennings Bryan](#): "At a major party's political convention 100 years ago, a fundamentalist Christian made an impassioned speech. It was not what you might expect."
- Jim Smucker reviews John Knapp's book on [the church and businesspeople](#)
(subscription required)
- On Obama and the need to be [twice as good and half as black](#)

In the news:

- [Lutheran federation to assist Syrian refugees in Jordan](#)