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Signs of the Times

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KAISER WILHELM, AROUND WHOM THE WAR STORM OF EUROPE IS RAGING

WHY THIS WAR?

What Does It Portend?



Photograph by Underwood & Underwood, N. Y.

Kaiser Wilhelm at the left, with his six sons, at the head of a German military procession

THIS war in Europe is without a parallel in history. Such a tornado of crashing armies could not have occurred in any previous generation. The world in no former age was one great neighborhood. But through the telegraph, the newspaper, the railroad, and the steamship, it is now one vast community. Hence a great problem in one nation touches the entire civilized world.

Never before did we have such great internal warring factions. Socialism, with its constantly increasing power, shows the organized and organizing discontentment of the world. Each of the nations has its great labor organizations, which are also bodies of organized discontentment. Through the modern means of communication, these great organizations—scores of others could be mentioned—are linked together in mighty international combines. Never before in the history of the world was greed organized into a colossal international power. And this international empire of concentrated wealth is the underlying cause for much of the social strife.

Never before were there such terrific weapons of warfare and destruction as at this time. In view of existing conditions of this character, the world is now facing problems that have no precedent in history.

A STRIKING PREDICTION

With these facts in mind, let us read one of the plain declarations of Scripture: "And at that time shall Michael stand up, the great Prince which standeth for the children of thy people: and there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation even to that same time: and at that time thy people shall be delivered, every one that shall be found written in the book. And many of them that sleep in the dust of the

earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt. And they that be wise shall shine as the brightness of the firmament; and they that turn many to righteousness as the stars forever and ever. But thou, O Daniel, shut up the words, and seal the book, even to the time of the end: many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall be increased." Dan. 12: 1-4.

Observe that this prophecy specifically says that it is to apply at "the time of the end"; that the time of the end is to be marked by the many who shall run to and fro, and by the increase of knowledge; and furthermore, in that time of the end "there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation even to that same time."

All the experiences of the whole history of the world are brought together and summed up. But reaching beyond and above all these there arises this "time of trouble" in "the time of the end," a period of grim terrors without parallel. Language could not be plainer than this scripture.

Note also that in this "time of trouble," God's people are to be delivered, "every one that shall be found written in the book,"—the book of life spoken of more fully in the prophecies of Revelation.

SUPPORTED BY ANOTHER PREDICTION

In harmony with this prophecy of the twelfth of Daniel is the language of the Lord Himself. He says: "There shall be signs in the sun, and in the moon, and in the stars; and upon the earth distress of nations, with perplexity; the sea and the waves roaring; men's hearts failing them for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth: for the powers of heaven shall be shaken. And then shall they see the Son of man coming in a

cloud with power and great glory." Luke 21: 25-27.

See how specific this scripture is. It tells of the perplexing, distressing conditions of the earth, and the climax is the coming of the Son of man in the clouds of heaven. These distresses and perplexities among the nations, together with the roaring of the sea and the waves, will be causing men's hearts to fail them for fear. In other words, the Master, in this graphic language, is also describing that "time of trouble" which He had inspired the prophet Daniel to foretell.

Many are already predicting that this war will be short, and that its awful lesson will make an end of armed combats. But such will not be the case.

WARS WILL CONTINUE

Following this war there will be still more awful distress and internal commotion. We do not make this statement as a philosopher, but from the standpoint of what the prophecies themselves clearly teach. War in this time of the end is to be one of the great factors that will disturb society in making this unprecedented time of trouble. And, as was pointed out last week, while God's restraining hand will hold the winds of war in check until His specific saving work is done, yet we will be able to see the angry storm-clouds of strife rising on every hand, and occasional terrific outbursts will make manifest the pent up furies of the demons that revel in human gore.

You ask why we know this, and we reply in the language of the following scripture: "The seventh angel sounded; and there were great voices in heaven, saying, The kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of His Christ; and He shall reign forever and ever. And the four and twenty elders, which sat before God on their seats, fell upon their faces, and wor-

shipped God, saying, We give Thee thanks, O Lord God Almighty, which art, and wast, and art to come; because Thou hast taken to Thee Thy great power, and hast reigned. And the nations were angry, and Thy wrath is come, and the time of the dead, that they should be judged, and that Thou shouldst give reward unto Thy servants the prophets, and to the saints, and them that fear Thy name, small and great; and shouldst destroy them which destroy the earth. And the temple of God was opened in heaven, and there was seen in His temple the ark of His testament: and there were lightnings, and voices, and thunderings, and an earthquake, and great hail." Rev. 11:15-19.

FINAL OVERTHROW OF WAR LORDS

This text says that the sounding of the seventh angel is to mark the time when the kingdoms of the world are to become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of His Christ. But in what manner is this change brought about? The text also answers this question by saying that in that great day God will "destroy them that destroy the earth."

The mighty war lords that are led into these strifes by the furies of demons will then have the realization of that other graphic scripture which says: "And the heaven departed as a scroll when it is rolled together; and every mountain and island were moved out of their places. And the kings of the earth, and the great men, and the rich men, and the chief captains, and the mighty men, and every bondman, and every freeman, hid themselves in the dens and in the rocks of the mountains; and said to the mountains and rocks, Fall on us, and hide us from the face of Him that sitteth on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb." Rev. 6:14-16.

Observe how plainly these texts tell that it is through the destruction of the kingdoms

of this world that they become the kingdom of our Lord and His Christ; also, when the climax is reached, the rich men, and the chief captains, and the mighty men are hiding themselves in dens and caverns, and in terrible tones of anguish are calling for the rocks and the mountains to fall on them and hide them "from the face of Him that sitteth on the throne: . . . for the great day of His wrath is come; and who shall be able to stand?"

NO JUST CAUSE FOR THIS WAR

Returning to the text in the eleventh of Revelation, let the fact be clearly noted that when the Judgment hour is reached, the nations are angry. The Twentieth Century Version says that "the nations were enraged." The Revised Version says, "The nations were wroth." Rotherham translates it, "The nations were angered." Translators seem to be struggling to find an expression that would show the intensity of the nations in the manifestation of their spirit of anger. And how literally does this great war storm that has burst upon Europe show the awful spirit of war to-day!

War breaks out, and inside of two weeks it has involved all the leading nations of Europe, together with many of the smaller ones; and at least two of the great nations of the Orient, constituting the leading military powers of Asia, are in the struggle.

No one can point to a just cause for this war. The so-called Christian nations of the earth are the instigators of it, and are in the center of the mad whirlpool of strife. Each one blames the other for the conflict. No one is willing to shoulder the responsibility of such a terrible slaughter.

DONE DESPITE PUBLIC SENTIMENT

The great body of the socialists, together with several hundred peace societies, many

of which are international, are creating a public sentiment against war. Kings, emperors, and presidents decry war. Hence they knew better than to plunge into this great strife. But in the face of public sentiment, in the face of every principle of right as taught in the peaceable gospel of Jesus Christ, all Europe and a large part of Asia are in this maelstrom of war.

God said that when the time came for the dead to be judged, the nations would be angry; and if the nations are not angry to-day, as shown in this great strife, what could you ask for as the fulfilment of this prophecy?

In Rotherham's translation, he says that the nations were angered when they had reached "the season of the dead to be judged." He designates the time of the Judgment as a "season," or a prolonged period. This is in harmony with the prophecy of the eighth and the ninth of Daniel, which prophecies have often been set forth in these columns, and which locate the beginning of the Investigative Judgment in 1844.

We can not take the space here to enter into the discussion of that prophecy. We merely call attention to it, and to the proofs that have been presented so abundantly in our literature to show that the Judgment began at that time; that then the books of record in heaven were opened, and each case of the righteous has been passing in review before the great Judge, preparatory to the call of the Master for them to come forth into immortality at the first resurrection,—at His second appearing.

THE PREDICTION STRIKINGLY FULFILLED

But passing those matters over as having often been abundantly proved from the Scriptures of truth, we take our stand at the

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French troops — one of the army corps that were ordered to the front

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Supreme Efforts for Peace

Influential Peace Congresses and Peace Societies—Are They Creating Sentiment That Will Throttle This War and Prevent Future Wars?

By MILTON C. WILCOX

THE reader of history lays down his last volume of the chronicles of the world with the conviction that war is the normal condition of mankind. Preparations for war, and recuperating losses and forces after war, cover practically the whole history of the great world powers, from Nimrod of Babylon, the mighty hunter of men, to the war lord of Germany, Emperor William II.

Few are the times in history's centuries when the temple of Janus could be closed. Few pages are there comparatively that have not been stamped or smeared with blood. The war god has been worshiped, and upon his shrine men of blood have laid their garlands and votive offerings, and he has been crowned preeminent; but there has been kept in the background the sad picture composed of the millions of nameless graves, the weeping mothers and widows and children whose sons and husbands and fathers come not back, none of whom were responsible for the fearful strife. And, too, upon the suffering masses who are left have been laid the colossal, crushing burden of debt.

WILL WAR CEASE?

Will it never cease? Good men have hoped it would. Some have dreamed that the influences of the Prince of peace, and the religion of Christianity, which is a religion of peace, would so mold the minds and hearts of men that world-wide peace would come. Others have thought that the common business sense of men would lead them to see the futility and the barbarity of war, the unbearable financial burden it entails, and

help them to devise some plan to settle difficulties, national and international, without resort to bloodshed. Many noble men have been working for peace. Money has been bestowed in large sums, societies of various kinds and scope have been organized, and multiplied essays and innumerable articles have been published to the world, to create and foster the sentiments of peace. Many sermons have been preached from Christian pulpits to educate in the same direction.

AGITATION AND EFFORTS FOR PEACE

It may be worth while to chronicle briefly some of these efforts. The first international congress of peace was held in London, at the suggestion of Joseph Sturge, in 1843. In 1848 the second was held at Brussels. In 1849 the third international peace congress was held at Paris. In 1853 one was held in Manchester, England. Richard Cobden and John Bright were present and took part. In 1878 one was held at Paris in connection with the international exhibition. In 1889 another exposition was held in Paris, in connection with which another peace congress was held. From that time on they became periodical. In 1908 the seventeenth sat in London, and in 1910 the eighteenth was held in Stockholm, Sweden.

During this period the following organizations were effected: The Institute of International Law was organized by the French, composed of international lawyers of great ability. The American Society of International Law was founded with the same purpose in view. The Institute of International Law was organized in Switzerland in 1887. The Inter-Parliamentary Union was organized in England, composed of able men of various parliaments of the world. In 1881 James G. Blaine, of the United States, set in motion a peace agitation that has resulted in great good to the states of South America. In 1889 the first Pan-American Peace Congress was held in Washington. The second was held in 1901, in Mexico. In

1906 the third Pan-American conference included in its representatives the United States, and every South American state except Venezuela.

THE HAGUE CONFERENCES

From this peace agitation, Emperor Nicholas II, of Russia, in 1898 was encouraged to



High Admiral Alfred P. T. von Tirpitz, commander of the kaiser's naval forces

invite the nations of Europe to the Hague. Twenty-six responded to this, and the first Hague conference was held in 1899. It was hoped that this conference would bring about such a condition that international differences could be adjusted without war where the parties are honestly agreed. The second Hague peace convention was held in 1907. If we remember correctly, there were forty-four nations signatory to that convention. According to the actions of that convention, the signatory powers (1) would use their best efforts to insure the pacific settlement of international difficulties; (2) if diplomacy failed, they were, as far as circumstances would allow, to resort to the mediation of one or more friendly powers; (3) it would not be regarded as an unfriendly act if one or more powers—strangers to the dispute—should on their own initiative offer mediation to the states in disagreement, or even during hostilities, as President Wilson has done in this present European war; (4) in any disputes of international character, involving neither national honor nor vital interests, arising from a difference of opinion on points of fact, the parties who have not been able to come to an agreement should institute an international commission of inquiry to facilitate a solution of the dispute by an investigation of the facts; (5) they agreed that arbitration is recognized as the most effective and at the same time the



War scene in Vienna, the capital of Austria. This is typical of the intense excitement prevailing.

most equable means of settling disputes which diplomacy has failed to adjust.

If these principles had been followed out, we would have had no European war at the present time. Of course no force was given to these principles. No court was established that could decide and enforce its sentence.

PERMANENT ARBITRATION COURT

Secretary Knox, of the United States, proposed that there should be a permanently sitting court of arbitration, clothed with the functions of a "court of arbitral justice"; and the United States government accordingly suggested that the signatories should insert in the act of ratification a reservation to the effect that resort to the International Prize Court, in respect to decisions of their national tribunals, should take the form of a direct claim for compensation. This court of arbitration should hold regular and continuous sessions, consist of the same judges, and pay due heed to the precedence created by its prior decisions.

While the Hague congress could not go so far as that, the sentiment was seemingly healthy. One of the endeavors at the Hague was to limit military operations, restrict military budgets. The following resolution was adopted: "The conference is of opinion that the restriction of military budgets, which are at present a heavy burden on the world, is extremely desirable for the increase of the material and moral welfare of mankind."

It also said that "governments taking into account the proposals made at the conference should examine the possibility of an understanding concerning the limitation of military and naval armaments in the war budgets." Both

the French and the Italian parliament urged that something should be done in this direction, but Germany was not agreed.

The only two powers in the world that have limited military expenses are Chile and Argentine. They have an agreement between themselves to limit military expenses and so reduce the tremendous cost. Either power that wishes to increase its armaments must give eighteen months' notice.

But along the lines of the peace movements have developed a long list of arbitration treaties. From October 14, 1903, down to June, 1910, one hundred and three arbitration treaties were signed between various powers of the world. Under the influence of the State Department at Washington this year twenty different arbitration treaties have been signed.

It was hoped that the preservation of the balance of power in Europe would maintain peace there. The Triple Alliance and the Triple Entente were formed for that very purpose; and through various treaties the little powers of Europe, such as Luxemburg, Belgium, Holland, Switzerland, Denmark, Norway, and Sweden, were held to be per-

petually neutral,—buffers really between the great powers.

UNDERLYING CAUSES — RUSSIA'S AMBITION

But all these things do not change the human heart, nor pacify the earth-hunger among the nations. Over in the east of Europe is a colossal power, Russia. Looking at it purely from the Russian standpoint, one can not blame the nation for wanting warm water ports, and the ability and right to maintain a navy the same as any other great power of Europe.

Russia is a wonderful producing country. She is one of the great wheat and oil producers of earth. She wishes to market these the same as other powers. Her ports on the Pacific are summer ports, frozen in winter. So it is on the Baltic Sea. There is only one

Empire composed of the kingdoms of Austria proper, Hungary, Croatia, Serbia, etc. He dreamed, under his Jesuit teaching, of another Holy Roman Empire, including the Balkan peninsula and Austria. This, to be sure, would have destroyed the Balkan powers, which are largely Slav, and more sympathetically connected with Russia. It would have destroyed Serbia's independence and her dream of a larger kingdom. It would have been a constant menace to Greece, if it had not absorbed her.

While the little Balkan powers would war among themselves, they would probably unite against any power that would seek to swallow them up or take away their independence.

GERMANY'S INTENT

Germany also is interested in repressing the ambitions of Russia. She has at the present time the building of a railway from the Dardanelles to the Persian Gulf, down through the Euphrates Valley, and her terms with Turkey give her the right to police that railway six miles on either side—a practical control of the great commerce of the valley. She has other large interests in Asia Minor. She does not want Russia pressing down through Armenia from the north.

IMPERIALISM AND REPUBLICANISM

With all the other elements in this clash of arms, one must not leave out of his reckoning the struggle of systems. Europe has been largely ruled by monarchy, by imperialism, by autocracy. But struggling against this for centuries has been the innate sense of justice in men's minds, that they ought to have something to say in the management of what concerns them. Therefore this is a conflict between autocracy and democracy, between imperialism and republicanism, between oligarchism and socialism. The New York *World* pertinently points out this in the following:

"All the world knew that a declaration of war against Russia was in effect a declaration of war against France. Germany admitted it by mobilizing her army, not on the Russian frontier, but on the French frontier. A decisive blow was to be struck against the French *republic*, not against its *imperial* ally. It was not Russian *despotism* that was to be crushed, but French *republicanism*. The hollow hypocrisy of the whole proceeding is revealed in the fact that before the clash of arms is fairly begun, the Austrian invasion of Serbia is practically abandoned. . . . What was begun hastily as a war of autocracy is not unlikely to end as a war of revolution, with *thrones crumbling and dynasties in exile*."

Oscar S. Straus, the well-known publicist, former United States ambassador to Turkey,

(Continued on page 12)



Photograph by Paul Thompson

Servian cavalry on the march. The picture is a forceful illustration of how much the country has been reduced. Every kind of horse is pressed into service, that ordinarily would not be considered for cavalry purposes. In many instances even the slow-going ox is used by the Servians in transporting military equipment.

half of the year that it can be used to any advantage. She has wanted a port in the south, an outlet on the Mediterranean Sea, but this has been blocked by Turkey. Russia has felt, of course, with the regard that the other nations have for Turkey, that sometime she would have Constantinople, in order that she may have a Mediterranean port. Austria and Germany have felt that if Russia was allowed to extend in this direction, with the tremendous resources she has behind her, she would sweep over all Europe; and therefore Russia has been restrained of her ambition, and is still restrained.

AUSTRIA'S DESIRES

Austria also has her ambitions. The only ports she has are on the Adriatic. She would like to have a port on the Egean Sea—Saloniki for instance—but she has been restrained of her ambitions in this direction.

These are the primal causes of the difficulties at the present time. Connected with these, of course, are the ambitions of men like the late Ferdinand of Austria, who was just recently assassinated. It was his ambition, we are told, to form a great Austrian

His Masterly Tenderness Displayed

Unselfish Love and Sympathy Manifested—Divine Estimate of the Value of a Soul—The Most Sinful May Hope
The Sympathy We Should Have for Others

By MRS. E. G. WHITE

NOT because we first loved Him did Christ love us; but "while we were yet sinners," He died for us. He does not treat us according to our desert. Although our sins have merited condemnation, He does not condemn us. Year after year He has borne with our weakness and ignorance, with our ingratitude and waywardness. Notwithstanding our wanderings, our hardness of heart, our neglect of His holy word, His hand is stretched out still.

The Saviour's example is to be the standard of our service for the tempted and the erring. The same interest and tenderness and long-suffering that He has manifested toward us, we are to manifest toward others. "As I have loved you," He says, "that ye also love one another." John 13:34.

REVEAL HIS UNSELFISH LOVE

If Christ dwells in us, we shall reveal His unselfish love toward all with whom we have to do. As we see men and women in need of sympathy and help, we shall not ask, "Are they worthy?" but, "How can I benefit them?"

Rich and poor, high and low, free and bond, are God's heritage. He who gave His life to redeem man, sees in every human being a value that exceeds finite computation. By the mystery and glory of the cross, we are to discern His estimate of the value of the soul. When we do this, we shall feel that human beings, however degraded, have cost too much to be treated with coldness or contempt. We shall realize the importance of working for our fellow men, that they may be exalted to the throne of God.

A PIECE OF SILVER STILL

The lost coin, in the Saviour's parable, though lying in the dirt and rubbish, was a piece of silver still. Its owner sought it because it was of value. So every soul, however degraded by sin, is in God's sight accounted precious. As the coin bore the image and superscription of the reigning power, so man at his creation bore the image and superscription of God. Though now marred and dim through the influence of sin, the traces of this inscription remain upon every soul. God desires to recover that soul, and to retrace upon it His own image in righteousness and holiness.

We need more of Christlike sympathy; not merely sympathy for those who appear to us to be faultless, but sympathy for poor, suffering, struggling souls, who are often overtaken in fault, sinning and repenting, tempted and discouraged. We are to go to our fellow men, touched, like our merciful High Priest, with the feeling of their infirmities.

It was the outcast, the publican and sinner, the despised of the nations, that Christ called, and by His loving-kindness compelled to come unto Him. The one class that He would never countenance was those who stood apart in their self-esteem, and looked down upon others.

THE INVITATION A COMPELLING POWER

"Go out into the highways and hedges, and compel them to come in," Christ bids us, "that My house may be filled." In obedience to this word, we must go to the heathen who are near

us, and to those who are afar off. The "publicans and harlots" must hear the Saviour's invitation. Through the kindness and long-suffering of His messengers, the invitation becomes a compelling power to uplift those who are sunken in the lowest depths of sin.

Christian motives demand that we work with a steady purpose, an undying interest, an ever increasing importunity, for the souls whom Satan is seeking to destroy. Nothing is to chill the earnest, yearning energy for the salvation of the lost.

THOSE WHO HAVE FALLEN THE LOWEST

"We are saved by hope." Rom. 8:24. The fallen must be led to feel that it is not too late for them to be men. Christ honored man with His confidence, and thus placed him on his honor. Even those who had fallen the lowest He treated with respect. It was a continual pain to Christ to be brought into contact with enmity, depravity, and impurity; but never did He

utter one expression to show that His sensibilities were shocked or His refined tastes offended. Whatever the evil habits, the strong prejudices, or the overbearing passions of human beings, He met them all with pitying tenderness.

As we partake of His Spirit, we shall regard all men as brethren, with similar temptations and trials, often falling, and struggling to rise again, battling with discouragements and difficulties, craving sympathy and help. Then we shall meet them in such a way as not to discourage or repel them, but to awaken hope in their hearts.

God bids us, in dealing with the tempted and the erring, consider "thyself, lest thou also be tempted." Gal. 6:1. With a sense of our own infirmities, we shall have compassion for the infirmities of others.

A TENDER SPIRIT, A WINNING DEPORTMENT

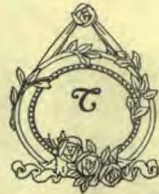
It is always humiliating to have one's errors pointed out. None should make the experi-

ence more bitter by needless censure. No one was ever reclaimed by reproach; but many have thus been repelled, and have been led to steel their hearts against conviction. A tender spirit, a gentle, winning deportment, may save the erring, and hide a multitude of sins.

When one at fault becomes conscious of his error, be careful not to destroy his self-respect. Do not discourage him by indifference or distrust. Do not say, "Before giving him my confidence, I will wait to see whether he will hold out." Often this very distrust causes the tempted one to stumble.

MISUNDERSTOOD AND FULL OF DISTRESS

We should strive to understand the weakness of others. We know little of the heart trials of those who have been bound in chains of darkness, and who lack resolution and moral power. Most pitiable is the condition of him who is suffering under remorse. He is as one stunned, staggering, sinking into the dust. He can see nothing clearly. The mind is beclouded. He knows not what steps to take. Many a poor soul is misunderstood, unappreciated, full of distress and agony,—a lost, straying sheep.



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He can not find God, yet he has an intense longing for pardon and peace.

O, let no word be spoken to cause deeper pain! To the soul weary of a life of sin, but knowing not where to find relief, present the compassionate Saviour. Take him by the hand, lift him up, speak to him words of courage and hope. Help him to grasp the hand of the Saviour.

COMPASSIONATE CONSIDERATION

We need to put ourselves in the place of the tempted ones. Consider the power of heredity, the influence of evil associations and surroundings, the power of wrong habits. Can we wonder that under such influences many become degraded? Can we wonder that they should be slow to respond to efforts for their uplifting?

Often, when won to the gospel, those who appeared coarse and unpromising will be among its most loyal adherents and advocates. They are not altogether corrupt. Beneath the forbidding exterior, there are good impulses that might be reached. Without a helping hand, many would never recover themselves; but by patient, persistent effort, they may be uplifted. Such need tender words, kind consideration, tangible help. They need that kind of counsel that will not extinguish the faint gleam of courage in the soul. Let the workers who come in contact with them consider this.

THE SUN OF RIGHTEOUSNESS MAY SHINE THERE

Some will be found whose minds have been so long debased that they will never in this life become what under more favorable circumstances they might have been. But the bright beams of the Sun of Righteousness may shine into the soul. It is their privilege to have the life that measures with the life of God. Plant in their minds uplifting, ennobling thoughts. Let your life make plain to them the difference between vice and purity, darkness and light. In your example, let them read what it means to be a Christian. Christ is able to uplift the most sinful, and place them where they will be acknowledged as children of God, joint heirs with Christ to the immortal inheritance.

By the miracle of divine grace, many may be fitted for lives of usefulness. Despised and forsaken, they have become utterly discouraged. They may appear stoical and stolid. But under the ministration of the Holy Spirit, the stupidity that makes their uplifting appear so hopeless will pass away. The dull, clouded mind will awake. The slave of sin will be set free. Vice will disappear, and ignorance will be overcome. Through the faith that works by love, the heart will be purified and the mind enlightened.

Soldiers of God

TO Jacob it was said, "Thy name shall be . . . Israel: for as a prince hast thou . . . prevailed." Webster defines "prevail" to mean *overcome*. The true Israelites, therefore, are overcomers, prevailers, soldiers of God.

A soldier is one who fights for pay. The word "soldier," from *solidus*, denotes one who receives wages for battling. But not until *after* the battle does his sovereign bestow the decoration.

We, as soldiers of God, as Israelites, receive our *solidus*; for as we work for His cause, we are immediately and constantly paid, as no one will deny who has ever attempted to win souls for His kingdom. And after the victory, we too will receive our decoration, the crown, from our King.

J. H. HARTOG.

Is the Sabbath Essential?

Will the Teaching of It Handicap Our Work?
Can We Afford to Teach It?

By L. D. SANTEE

IN our personal work for others, they often tell us, "If it were not for the Sabbath, we would unite with your church." This expression, so frequently heard, has set us to thinking seriously. God forbid that we should present any obstacle, any unnecessary requirement, any needless sacrifice. If we can leave the Sabbath out, and still preach a gospel that will save man, we ought to do it.

I am willing to leave it out, if God authorizes such an omission. I must find that out, by going to His word. First I will notice the character of Him whose word I am to study. In James 1:17 we read, "With whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning." Of His Son we read, "Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to-day, and forever." Heb. 13:8. Then, as the characters of God and Christ are unchangeable, Their teaching would be of the same nature.

COULD NOT BE A TYPE

Another thought: Anything made before the fall, could not be a type, as no gospel was necessary, and there was nothing to prefigure. With these thoughts before us, we begin the study of our subject.

Jesus said, "The Sabbath was made for man." Mark 2:27. This refers us back to its "making." "Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all the host of them. And on the seventh day God ended His work which He had made; and He rested on the seventh day from all His work which He had made. And God blessed the seventh day, and sanctified it; because that in it He had rested from all His work which God created and made." Gen. 2:1-3.

Everything was just as God purposed it should be, for He Himself had fashioned it. There were no types, for sin had not yet made necessary the application of a remedial scheme. Again, man was not yet divided into nationalities, and so the principles enjoined were for the entire race.

GOD WAS WORKING

Here, then, at the close of the creation week, God expressed His wish, by both precept and example, that man should rest on the seventh day. I find this wish repeated in Ex. 16:26: "Six days ye shall gather it; but on the seventh day, which is the Sabbath, in it there shall be none." This refers to the manna. Here again God was working, and His work gave them no warrant to labor on the seventh day. Those who presumed to do so, were met with stern rebuke.

A month later, from the flaming summit of trembling Sinai was spoken and written the law for the race, and the voice of the Almighty said to them in plain and positive language, "The seventh day is the Sabbath

of the Lord thy God: in it thou shalt not do any work." Ex. 20:10.

From that time, every inspired writer taught the law of God; and whatever they said of the law, was true of the Sabbath as well, as it was a part of the law. The women who were instructed by the Saviour, did not think it right even to embalm the dead on the Sabbath. Luke 23:56.

A REST REMAINS

Jesus said not only that He was "Lord of the Sabbath" (Mark 2:28), but that it was more durable than "heaven and earth." Luke 16:17. Paul affirmed that the Sabbath-breaker dishonored God. Rom. 2:23. Notice Heb. 4:9, first as to its chronology, — A. D. 64, within six years of the destruction of Jerusalem, and but thirty years after the crucifixion. Many churches had been established, the gospel was preached, and its principles were understood. Before God closed the inspired record, He put in one more "Remember" to His wish that they should observe the day on which He rested and which He sanctified. "There remaineth therefore a rest [margin, "keeping of a Sabbath"] to the people of God." So there is a Sabbath to be kept by the people of God. Which day is it? "For he that is entered into his rest [keeps the Sabbath], he also hath ceased from his own works, as God did from His." Verse 10. Now if I can find out on which day God ceased from His work, then I will know which day remains for me to keep, for God is the Example. I read in verse 4 of Hebrews 4. "God did rest the seventh day from all His works." That settles it for me. I am to rest as God rested, on the seventh day.

DECLARED ALL THE COUNSEL OF GOD

Paul said to the elders of Ephesus, "I have not shunned to declare unto you all the counsel of God." Acts 20:27. Shall I do differently? When a soul under conviction asks me, "What must I do to be saved?" and I know that "sin is the transgression of the law" (1 John 3:4), shall I tell him about the Sabbath?

WHEN GOD CONTROLS, THE SEVENTH DAY IS OBSERVED

Inspiration, speaking of the world to come, where God reigns supreme, says: "As the new heavens and the new earth, which I will make, shall remain before Me, saith the Lord, so shall your seed and your name remain. And it shall come to pass, that from one new moon to another, and from one Sabbath to another, shall all flesh come to worship before Me, saith the Lord." Isa. 66:22, 23. Here is a fact that I desire every reader to remember, even if he should forget all the rest of this article: *When God controls the world, the seventh-day Sabbath is observed.* Please do not lose sight of this important truth. It was so in the first Eden. It will be so in Eden restored. As in the new earth, which God will control, the seventh day of the week will be kept by the redeemed, how can we leave out the Sabbath, and still preach a gospel that would save you, and give you a place in the earth made new?

"All flesh" will worship God on the Sabbath. Will that include you? We would rather teach you what the word of God says. "Then shall I not be ashamed, when I have respect unto all Thy commandments." Ps. 119:6.

The Millennium and the Binding of Satan

How Is Satan Bound?—What Marks the Beginning and the Close of the Much Discussed Thousand Years?

By J. W. RICH

HERE is so much said, these days, about the millennium, that one would imagine the Bible well filled with material on the subject. We hear it mentioned in social talks, from the lecture platform, and from the pulpit. In many places, and at different times, enthusiasm over the subject is intense.

Why is this, when the word is not even once used in the Bible? "Millennium" is derived from two Latin words,—*mille*, a thousand, and *annus*, a year,—a thousand years. This period of time is mentioned just six times in the Bible, and all within the scope of one chapter—Revelation 20. In this chapter, three times reference is made to the period in connection with Satan, twice in its relation to the righteous, and once to the wicked.

As the millennium is so widely discussed, and so many opinions are held concerning it and the condition of the earth during its continuance, we may well note some of the scriptures relating to the subject.

SATAN IS BOUND

From Rev. 20:2 we note that Satan is bound during that period. This binding of Satan is due to the fact that there will be no one left here on the earth for him to tempt or molest. The righteous will be in heaven with Christ, having been taken back with Him at His second return. At that coming, the righteous dead are resurrected, and with those who are living, are caught up together to meet the Lord in the air. 1 Thess. 4:16-18; Rev. 20:6.

The wicked, at the same time, are destroyed by the "brightness of His coming." There will be no man or woman left upon the earth for Satan to annoy. The millennium is given him in which to wander over the broken surface of the earth, there to behold the result of the working out of his own plan.

THE PROPHET VIVIDLY DESCRIBES IT

The prophet Jeremiah, in looking down through the future, evidently saw this scene, and has given us a brief sketch, as recorded in Jer. 4:19-28: "Destruction upon destruction is cried; for the whole land is spoiled. . . . I beheld, and, lo, the fruitful place was a wilderness, and all the cities thereof were broken down at the presence of the Lord, and by His fierce anger." What a desolation—the bottomless pit, in which Satan is to spend the millennium with his angels! All his subjects are dead, either buried or strewn over the face of the earth. Thus is Satan bound in the bottomless pit, a condition that remains during the entire period.

What may we look for at the close of the millennium? A resurrection—that of the righteous—marked its beginning; and according to Rev. 20:5, a resurrection is to mark its close. What a contrast! At the first resurrection, every one raised was an heir to the kingdom of God. At this second resurrection, all those raised, with their leader, are enemies of God, even besieging the city of the saints, God's capital. Verses

8, 9. Then it is that the end of sin, sinners, and Satan shall be consummated.

BEGINNING AND CLOSE OF THE THOUSAND YEARS

What events, then, mark the beginning of the millennium?—The coming of Christ, the resurrection and translation of the righteous, and the death of the wicked, together with the binding of Satan. And what events mark its close?—The loosing of Satan out of the bottomless pit, brought about by the resurrection of his subjects, the besiegement of the city of God, the overthrow of the besiegers, and the end of sin.

The long night of the reign of sin has finally reached its end, and the dawn of eternity has been ushered in. The misery of burdened hearts is now a thing of the past. Beauty and consolation extend over the vast domain of the new earth.

The question that should concern each of us now, is as to where we are going to spend the millennium,—in heaven with God, the angels, and the redeemed of all ages, or here on the broken surface of the earth, awaiting the second resurrection, then to begin warfare against God and all that is good.

It is your privilege and mine to be among the former class. Will we be? Either of the places may be chosen, but only the two are offered. There is no alternative. Your decision is for eternity. The relation that you sustain to the plan of salvation determines the answer. Be sure as to the way you respond.

Is God Particular?

A King Lost His Throne by Presuming God Was Not Particular—Definite Obedience to Specific Demands

By A. R. BELL

AS men look into the wonderful plan of salvation, they see the providence of God for a world lost in the darkness of sin. They see the sacrifice of Christ, as with a love infinitely beyond measurement, He took upon Himself our flesh, and became "obedient unto death." They draw a picture, in the mind's eye, of our blessed Lord as in dark Gethsemane He "resisted unto blood, striving against sin." They hear Him on Calvary's cross cry out in the agony of death, "It is finished."

And yet, carried away by a sentiment not born of the Spirit of God, filled with and ruled by conceptions of redemption that have no foundation in the word of God, men are floundering in the quagmires of their own inventions. Setting aside the Scriptures of truth, they have presented to the world such plans of salvation as reveal God as a being who, in His efforts to save the race, loses sight of sin—as a being who is a respecter of persons, and a God who denies to one the privileges accorded to another.

They reveal to us a God who no more says as He did in the days of Saul, king of Israel: "Hath the Lord as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the Lord? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to harken than the fat of rams." And they have brought to pass a day in which, released from the loyal, loving service of obedience, we can sing,

"Free from the law! O, happy condition!" and flagrantly violate the word and law of the living God.

Reader, God is particular, and the question of obedience is a vital one.

It was disobedience that brought death, and cost us Eden. Genesis 3. It was disobedience that gave to the world its first murderer. Genesis 4. It was disobedience that robbed Aaron of two sons, and Israel of two priests. Lev. 10:1. It was disobedience that cost Saul his kingdom. 1 Sam. 15:23. It was disobedience that lost to Israel peace and righteousness. Isa. 48:18.

And as between the commandments of God and the commandments of men, the Lord Himself tells us that teaching for doctrine the commandments of men, even worship is in vain; and further, that disobedience will lose heaven to God's professed people. Matt. 15:2-9; 7:21-23.

It will not do to excuse ourselves or others on the plea of sincerity. The mothers of India were sincere as they threw their own loved offspring, as an act of worship, into the waters of their sacred river Ganges. Their being sincere did not make that awful thing right. We will not question the sincerity of Saul as he brought "the best of the sheep, and of the oxen, and of the fatlings, and the lambs, and all that was good," "to sacrifice unto the Lord" in Gilgal; but that sacrifice—an act of worship on Saul's part—would have been a stench in the nostrils of the Almighty, and that proposed act of worship lost him his kingdom.

Disobedience was sin in that day. It is no less sin to-day.

The call of faith is to the keeping of God's commandments. Rev. 14:12. The call of God unto eternal life is along the pathway of obedience. Rev. 22:14.

"If ye be willing and obedient, ye shall eat the good of the land," says the Lord. Isa. 1:19. And says Jesus, "Ye are My friends, if ye do whatsoever I command you." John 15:14.

Yes, dear reader, God is particular. And on the other hand, we owe Him our "full measure of devotion."

He so loved us, that He gave His only-begotten Son to save us from our sins—our transgressions of His law.

There is a principle at stake. It is the loyalty of a universe as against the anarchy of lawlessness. God's last call to men to the keeping of His commandments and the faith of Jesus is the test of our devotion. Rev. 14:12.

The Refreshing

WE read of a certain time when God will say, "This is the rest wherewith ye may cause the weary to rest; and this is the refreshing: yet they would not hear." Isa. 28:12.

The refreshing to which reference is made is the outpouring of God's Spirit in the latter days, the pentecostal rain, just before the second coming of Christ. Some will turn away their ears from the message, some will not heed the warning, some will be swept away by the overflowing scourge. It was thus in the days of Noah, and thus will it be in the times just before Jesus comes. "Prepare to meet thy God."

ELIZA H. MORTON.

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OUR SOURCE OF LIFE

Sin Doomed Man to Die Eternally — A Plan Provided That Gives Redemption and Eternal Life

"AS the Father hath life in Himself; so hath He given to the Son to have life in Himself." John 5:26. The Lord Jesus Christ is *life*. He is the *source* of life. He is *our* life.

It was Christ who created this world, and gave to matter its forces and its life. Thus we read: "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by Him; and without Him was not anything made that was made. In *Him was life*; and the life was the light of men." John 1:1-4.

Paul says: "For by Him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by Him, and for Him: and He is before all things, and by Him all things consist." Col. 1:16, 17.

HIS GREAT CREATIVE POWER

These scriptures set forth the great power of the Son of God. He has creative power. He created the earth from nothing. "He spake, and it was done; He commanded, and it stood fast." Ps. 33:9. "In Him was life," and that life He imparted to that which He created. He said, "Let the earth bring forth grass, the herb yielding seed, and the fruit-tree yielding fruit after his kind, whose seed is in itself, upon the earth: and it was so." Gen. 1:11. The seed contains the life germ that Christ imparted to vegetation when He commanded it to be.

Having covered the earth with nutritious vegetation, the Creator caused to exist the "living creature" after its kind,—the beasts, the cattle, the fowls, the winged insects, and every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth. To all these creatures, as well as to vegetation, the Lord Jesus gave life. "To every beast of the earth, and to every fowl of the air, and to everything that creepeth upon the earth, *wherein there is life*, I have given every green herb for meat; and it was so." Gen. 1:30.

MADE IN THE IMAGE OF GOD

The last and crowning act of our Lord was the creation of man. Of this we read: "And God said, Let Us make man in Our image, after Our likeness." "So God created man in His own image, in the image of God created He him." "And the Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul." Gen. 1:26, 27; 2:7.

Thus we see that Jesus Christ not only has life in Himself, but that He has imparted life to everything He has created.

LIFE IMPARTED FOREVER

The life which Christ imparted to His works was to be in them forever. His purpose was that all He created should endure with Himself throughout eternity. It was not His will that His life should ever be separated from anything to which He had given it. Death, the enemy of life, did not come from Christ. It is the result, the wages, of sin. Rom. 6:23. It came upon, and entered into, the works of Christ, because of man's transgression.

DEATH ENTERED THROUGH SIN

Paul says that "by one man sin entered into the world, and *death by sin*; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have

sinned." Rom. 5:12. The man by whom sin and death entered into the world was Adam. When he was placed in the garden of Eden, the fruit of one tree was withheld from him. The Lord said, "In the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die." Gen. 2:17.

Adam transgressed the command of God. He ate the fruit, and brought upon himself condemnation and death. Thus he forfeited the life that Christ had given him, and took death instead. The very day he ate the fruit, the death sentence was passed upon him. His life was forfeited, and it was only a question of time when the sentence would be executed, and he would cease to exist.

THE WHOLE RACE WAS INVOLVED

The fall of Adam involved the whole race. It entailed sin upon his posterity. "By one man's disobedience many were made sinners." Rom. 5:19. This brought condemnation and death upon all. "By the offense of one judgment came upon all men to condemnation." Verse 18. Left to ourselves, we should all perish; for we are sinners, and we are all under the sentence of death.

There are many expressions in the Scriptures which show that God looks upon us as virtually dead. When on earth, Jesus said, "I am come that they might have life." John 10:10. He also said, "Ye will not come to Me, that ye might have life." John 5:40. Again, "Except ye eat the flesh of the Son of man, and drink His blood, ye have no life in you." John 6:53. "He that loveth not his brother abideth in death." 1 John 3:14.

WE MAY BE DELIVERED FROM DEATH

The fleeting physical life, or existence, that men have here, is not the life that God would have them possess. Christ came to destroy death, and to restore to man the life Adam forfeited by sin.

But the only way man can obtain that life is by taking Christ, who holds it. This is made very plain by the apostle John, who says, "He that hath the Son hath the life; he that hath not the Son of God hath not the life." 1 John 5:12, R. V.

Christ is received into the heart by faith. Eph. 3:17. He can not be separated from His life; so when He comes into the heart of the believer, He brings His life with Him, and that believer, according to John, "hath the life." This is what Christ taught the people when on earth. He said, "He that heareth My word, and *believeth* Him that sent Me, hath eternal life, and cometh not into judgment, but hath passed out of death into life." John 5:24, R. V. Again we read, "He that believeth on the Son of God hath the witness in him." "And the witness is this, that God gave unto us eternal life, and this life is in His Son." 1 John 5:10, 11, R. V.

WHERE OUR LIFE IS

Our life, then, is in Christ. Those who have Him, have life; and those who are separated from Him, abide in death. And we have life *only while we have Christ*. At present He holds that life for us. Says Paul, "Your life is hid with Christ in God." Col. 3:3. Again, "When Christ, who is our life, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with Him in glory." Verse 4. It is at the coming of Christ that immortality will be conferred upon His believers. Then they shall die no more. All praise to our blessed Lord that He "hath abolished death, and hath brought life and immortality to light through the gospel." 2 Tim. 1:10.

A. G. D.

TO THE SWIFT? TO THE STRONG?

NOT enough of the war has been fought out yet to show whether Germany is going to fulfil the great claim she has made for herself in the matter of preparedness and ability in maneuvers. Germany has been the most boasted nation in matters of war, and has almost held herself up as a model.

PREPARED FOR ANY SURPRISE

It has been declared that Germany was ready for the instant mobilization of her armies. Plans for the invasion of every European and transatlantic country, including the United States, were said to lie ready for use in the drawers of special receptacles at her war office; and immediately on the declaration of war, every officer, man, and boy in the service would be informed by telegram of the outbreak of hostilities. Being in possession of secret instructions, the purport of which he is sworn not to divulge, each man in the vast German fighting machine knows exactly the place assigned to him, and what he has to do when the army has taken the field.

All Germany's railways and streets have been built with an ultimate idea of war; and every truck, open or covered, is marked with figures denoting the number of horses and men, and the weight of the guns that the car can carry in war time.

Russia has thought to circumvent the preparedness of Germany by building her railway lines with a different gage; but the Germans have arranged their trucks in such a way that they can be adapted to the Russian or any other gage.

Special armored trains are in readiness within sheds in the neighborhood of every fort of importance. Material for bridges is ready for conveyance by rail to any spot desired. The railway system is owned by the government. The state bank of Germany, on declaration of war, will take entire charge of the war treasury until loans are raised.

All Germany's forts and fortresses are armed and equipped to overflowing with ammunition, supplies, stores, and provisions, so that they are ready for the outbreak of hostilities, and could undergo prolonged sieges. A dark brown bread called *kommis brot* is specially prepared to keep fresh for weeks. In fact everything is ready down to the last button on the last soldier's coat.

Target practise, new guns, dirigibles and aeroplanes, terrible explosives, ironclad automobiles, exploding shells — everything that Germany can get together — are massed to make possible the swift and terrible blow.

Furthermore, Germany has a secret service agency in every nation on the globe. Everything is done to keep the rank and file of the army in as magnificent physical condition as possible.

NOT TO THE SWIFT OR THE STRONG

Thus Germany seems to be both the strong and the swift. But the word of God declares that in the councils of the Almighty, the race is not to the swift, nor the battle to the strong. If it is for the good of the human race, and the advancement of God's great purposes, for Germany to win in this struggle, all her war preparedness may be of great effect.

But if the ambitions of Germany are selfish, if her blows against the nations would put back the plans of God for man, then the very ability of Germany shall work out her own defeat. For thus has it been in every age.

GREAT WAR PLANS THWARTED IN OTHER DAYS

The Philistines in ancient times, with their mighty Goliath, supposed they had an absolutely certain means of conquering the nations; but one smooth stone from the brook, in the hands of a child of God, brought all their war preparedness and power to naught.

Again, in the times of Alexander, the Persians supposed they had an indomitable host; but the Greek phalanx drove them into irretrievable ruin. The Austrian troops were unconquerable; but there was a way to break through their lances, and Arnold von Winkelried found that way as he rushed forward.

"'Make way for liberty,' he cried,
'Make way for liberty,' and died."

Until that moment, the mountaineers were beginning to despair of making an impression on their apparently invulnerable opponents; but as the knight of Unterwalden rushed forward, grasped with outstretched hands as many points as he could reach, buried them in his bosom, and bore them by his weight to the earth, his companions rushed over his dead body into the breach he thus

had made, slaughtered the armor-encumbered knights like sheep, and threw the remainder into confusion and dismay. The Swiss lost only two hundred men, while the Austrians lost one thousand, including six hundred counts, barons, and knights, among them Duke Leopold. And thus the battle of Sempach stands out vividly in history as a victory for the Swiss.

So, too, when the mighty English forces under Packingham moved forward to the attack of New Orleans, General Jackson had only his raw, untrained Kentucky sharpshooters behind the cotton bales; but when the smoke of battle cleared away, Jackson's forces had lost but six dead and seven wounded, while the British losses ran up into the hundreds.

THE WEAK TO CONFOUND THE MIGHTY

Even a modicum of history can teach us that the words of inspiration are profoundly true. Not always is the race to the swift, nor the battle to the strong, and not always is God on the side of the strongest battalion.

"But God hath chosen the foolish things of the world to confound the wise; and God hath chosen the weak things of the world to confound the things which are mighty; and base things of the world, and things which are despised, hath God chosen, yea, and things which are not, to bring to naught things that are: that no flesh should glory in His presence." 1 Cor. 1: 27-29.

THE SUPREMACY OF GOD

I know of no greater lesson to point in the time of this great European war than the great lesson that we ought all to learn, of the supremacy of God. He is King of kings, and Lord of lords. He is firmly seated upon the eternal throne. No one can change His plans. His purpose is purposed upon all the earth, and His hand is stretched out upon all the nations. What He has purposed, none can disannul; and His hand stretched out, none can turn back. Isa. 14: 26, 27.

Yes, "the Most High ruleth in the kingdom of men, and giveth it to whomsoever He will, and setteth up over it the basest of men." "All the inhabitants of the earth are reputed as nothing; and He doeth according to His will in the army of heaven, and among the inhabitants of the earth: and none can stay His hand, or say unto Him, What doest Thou?" "Those that walk in pride He is able to abase." Dan. 4: 17, 35, 37.

SEEMING FAILURE, BUT EVERLASTING SUCCESS INSTEAD

Even the death of the Son of God is seen to be ultimately the death of the captain of evil, and what looked like failure in the life of Christ turns out to be the headlong ruin of the whole kingdom of evil. And thus we see the wrath of man and even of devils made to praise God; and that portion of wrath which can not serve God's purposes, by the Lord restrained. Ps. 76: 10.

So let us look higher than the smoke of the European war, that our minds by faith may go up to Him who is King of kings and Lord of lords, and know that out of even this wrath of the nations, this wrath of men, God yet shall work out His eternal purposes. And when we thus know that God is supreme, we can behold nation rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom, yet we shall not be terrified. Luke 21: 9. Even now, in this time of fear and war, Christ as truly is speaking as in the days of peace. "Come unto Me," He says, "all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." O, the infinite peace that is begotten in the soul through trust in Him!

L. A. R.

THE CITY OF SAFETY

WE do not have them in this world. There have been cities that were so thoroughly fortified that they have been thought to be cities of safety, cities more safe than the cities of refuge appointed of God among His own people of old. Babylon was thought to be a city of safety. Belshazzar, its last king, the son of Nabonadius, had shut himself within its walls, and laughed at the efforts of the men who were outside. He thought they would never enter those mighty walls nor cross its moats and take its palaces; but Babylon fell, and the remains of Babylon form a mere heap of dust and ruins in the plain of the Euphrates to-day.

ALL SUCH MUST FALL

Nineveh was another mighty city that thought herself safe, but Nineveh is a heap of ruins.

Rome was once mistress of the world. She ruled it with an iron hand. But Rome fell. Men have surrounded the great

capitals of the world to-day with fortifications that seem almost invulnerable. Great lines of defense are thrown outside these cities, which it is thought will keep back the armies that may invest the land. This is true of Paris and Berlin and St. Petersburg and London; but all these cities, if they do not fall before armies, will, when God's voice shall speak from heaven, be shaken to nothing. When the great earthquake will have occurred, before which all others have been the merest warnings, "the cities of the nation fell." Rev. 16: 19.

A CITY THAT WILL REMAIN

But there is a city "whose Builder and Maker is God." There is a city, the coming capital of a renewed earth, which will come down out of heaven from God. Its streets are of gold, its walls of precious stones. Its gates of pearl shall be opened night and day. It needs no lines of fortifications surrounding it to keep back

the enemy; for there will be only peace in those days, and God's children will go out and come in at will. There will be no enmity in hearts and no signs of enmity in the land. "And the work of righteousness shall be peace; and the effect of righteousness quietness and assurance forever." There shall be no sickness there. "The inhabitant shall not say, I am sick: the people that dwell therein shall be forgiven their iniquity."

To this city, to this refuge, God invites all the perturbed and tried and warring factions of earth. This is His message. This is our message. Listen! "What then shall one answer the messengers of the nation?" is the question that Inspiration itself raises. Isa. 14: 32. And this is the answer that is to be given to the messengers of the nation and of the nations: "That Jehovah hath founded Zion, and in her shall the afflicted of His people take refuge."

M. C. W.

Why This War?

(Continued from page 3)

beginning of this great Judgment period in 1844. The prophet says that when the time of the dead, that they should be judged, arrives, the nations would be angry. Other prophecies noted last week speak of the spirits of demons that would go to the kings of the world to gather them to the war of the great day of God Almighty. Prophecy after prophecy points to this period as a time of unprecedented trouble and war.

Now it is a fact worthy of the most careful observance of every individual, that all the great modern war implements have been devised since 1844. The breech-loading gun, the machine gun, the high-power cannon, the ironclad battle-ships, battle cruisers, Dreadnoughts and super-Dreadnoughts, torpedo-boats, torpedo-boat destroyers, submarine torpedo-boats, aeroplanes, high-power explosives, and all the rest of these great war paraphernalia, have been invented since 1844.

How striking these facts! How awful these war preparations! How terrible the war spirit that has sprung up in our world since 1844! And how reprehensible it is that this is in the face of the greatest enlightenment, the highest civilization, the most widespread Christian sentiments, that ever existed!

Men know better, but they seem to be driven on by some unseen power into the awful vortex of war. The nations are angry; and the time of the dead, that they should be judged, is the sublime though awful reality of these days through which we are passing.

REMARKABLE EFFORTS FOR PEACE

And while, since 1844, we have had the mad furies of war preparations that are dragging all nations of earth into bankruptcy, it was also shortly after 1844 that international peace congresses began to be called by influential men. Organization after organization has been formed in one nation after another; and these national bodies have joined in international effort to spread the benign influences of peace, and to place frowns of disapproval upon the horrible barbarities of war. Read in the article on page 4 the account of the great efforts that have been put forth for peace, and note that this splendid work has been done since the great measuring line of prophecy had reached the hour for the Judgment to begin.

God had not only foretold the enraged spirit of the age as mighty demons spread the sentiments of war, but He had also

promised, as was shown last week, that He would hold these winds of human destruction in check. Behold the influential agencies that He has brought into the field for that purpose, and the millions of money that have been expended.

The men and women who have been working so splendidly to promote peace, may not have realized what they were doing; but whether they have recognized Him or not, they have nevertheless been instruments of Jehovah in binding for a time the gods of war. And may all the noble men and women who have worked so unselfishly for peace, be saved from that great delusion that will finally lead the myriads of earth to think that international peace is secured, when instead they are in the giddy whirl around the vortex of Armageddon's war, preliminary to the fatal plunge into everlasting destruction.

THE CLIMAX AND ETERNAL PEACE

In the great Judgment assize, God begins with the righteous dead. Passing on down through the centuries, the great climax will be reached when He comes to the cases of the living. Then the Judgment scene is finished, and the restraining hand of God will be withdrawn from the war-mad men who have refused to believe or accept His warning word, then the awful war storm of Armageddon will break, then the great climax of the second coming of Christ, then immortality and eternal life for those who are prepared, and everlasting destruction for those who reject God's great plan of salvation. The wise men and women of to-day will take God's word as their guide, and by its steadily shining light, will be directed into the haven of eternity, there to be crowned with endless life.

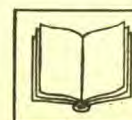
NO NEED FOR DISTRESS OR TERROR

A great many people express themselves as being terrified on having their attention called to the conditions that are in the world; but if we know the meaning, there is no need for terror or distress, for we have that blessed word of promise: "O thou afflicted, tossed with tempest, and not comforted, behold, I will lay thy stones with fair colors, and lay thy foundations with sapphires. And I will make thy windows of agates, and thy gates of carbuncles, and all thy borders of pleasant stones. And all thy children shall be taught of the Lord; and great shall be the peace of thy children. In righteousness shalt thou be established: thou shalt be far from oppression; for thou shalt not fear: and from terror; for it shall not come near thee. Behold, they shall surely gather

together, but not by Me: whosoever shall gather together against thee shall fall for thy sake. Behold, I have created the smith that bloweth the coals in the fire, and that bringeth forth an instrument for his work; and I have created the waster to destroy. No weapon that is formed against thee shall prosper; and every tongue that shall rise against thee in judgment thou shalt condemn. This is the heritage of the servants of the Lord, and their righteousness is of Me, saith the Lord." Isa. 54: 11-17.

How glorious are these promises! God's people are to be established in righteousness; they will not fear; they will have no terror; no weapon that is formed against them shall prosper; and every tongue that shall rise against them shall be condemned, because, says Jehovah, "their righteousness is of Me."

If we are standing with God, these days have no terror for us. The God who so loved the world that He gave His only-begotten Son in order that no one should perish, offers perfect security and shelter in the time of trouble such as never was since there was a nation. And that security terminates in an everlasting reward, as we cross the threshold of eternity into that fulness of joy that has never a blush of sadness or a tinge of pain, and where the great Prince of peace in glory reigns supreme.



SYSTEMATIC BIBLE STUDY

AS our paper next week is devoted exclusively to the subject of temperance, we give the schedules this week for two weeks of systematic Bible reading.

Some people who appear to be just as busy as others, can always tell us of reading they are doing. The reason for this is that they have a system upon which they work, and they are determined in carrying it out. For instance, they plan to read certain portions of the Bible every day in the year, and being resolute, they insist upon carrying out their plan. We trust there are many of this resolute class of readers who are this year reading the Bible through by course.

SCHEDULE FOR THE WEEK ENDING AUGUST 29

2 Samuel 2-9 Esther 9, 10
Jeremiah 19-25 Job 1-6

Read three chapters each week-day, and five on the Sabbath.

SCHEDULE FOR THE WEEK ENDING SEPTEMBER 5

2 Samuel 10-17
Jeremiah 26-32
Job 7-14

Read a chapter each week-day from 2 Samuel, and two on the Sabbath. Read a chapter each day from Jeremiah; and read a chapter each week-day from Job, and two on the Sabbath.

Supreme Efforts for Peace

(Continued from page 5)

writing from London, says: "This Titanic world clash will be the *obliteration of every monarchy in Europe*. When the armed forces have fought themselves out, there will *not be one sovereignty left*." And then he tells us that the responsibility will rest upon "England and France to compel Russia to modernize her governmental system, and that right away. Upon them rests the burden of forcing Russia to give *equal rights to her subjects*. Otherwise the alliance, instead of proving a bulwark of strength, will become a burden. Unless Russia is made to see that unless she accords now, at once, *full rights* to those whose patriotism she relies on, she will have to contend with revolution within."

And the New York *Independent* of August 10 declares in a stirring editorial: "Whom the gods destroy they first make mad—mad with the lust of power, drunk with their own egotism. The head devils have signed their own doom. Their days are numbered. The monarchs must go—and they will."

TWO GREAT PROPHECIES

Notwithstanding all this, there are men who are preaching peace. Out of this, they declare, will come peace. They have looked upon the prophecy in Isaiah 2 and in Micah 4 as a declaration of peace sooner or later. The former scripture reads:

"And it shall come to pass in the latter days, that the mountain of Jehovah's house shall be established on the top of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills; and all nations shall flow unto it. And many peoples shall go and say, Come ye, and let us go up to the mountain of Jehovah, to the house of the God of Jacob; and He will teach us of His ways, and we will walk in His paths: for out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of Jehovah from Jerusalem. And He will judge between the nations, and will decide concerning many peoples; and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning-hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more."

Certainly a blessed condition if it could only be brought about! The prophecy in Micah 4:1-5 conveys the thought that it is not many *peoples*, but many *nations*, that shall go and say this; and it also suggests that it will not be a universal rule of Christianity, "for all the peoples walk every one in the name of his god; and we will walk in the name of Jehovah our God forever and ever." That is, it will be a union in which all religions of all kinds will unite through compromise. There are indications which would show that this is the dream of the papacy as well; that when that great arbitral court of federated churches and systems of religion shall be organized, at the head of it all will be the pope of Rome, and his will be the voice through which, it will be averred, the Lord will speak in judging between the nations.

There is another prophecy, found in Joel 3:9-12, which we wish the reader would consider, that pertains also to the last days:

"Proclaim ye this among the nations; prepare war; stir up the mighty men; let all the men of war draw near, let them come

up. Beat your plowshares into swords, and your pruning-hooks into spears: let the weak say, I am strong. Haste ye, and come, all ye nations round about, and gather yourselves together: thither cause Thy mighty ones to come down, O Jehovah. Let the nations bestir themselves, and come up to the valley of Jehoshaphat; for there will I sit to judge all the nations round about. Put ye in the sickle; for the harvest is ripe: come, tread ye; for the wine-press is full, the vats overflow; for their wickedness is great. Multitudes, multitudes in the valley of decision! for the day of Jehovah is near in the valley of decision."

Certainly there could not be a stronger contrast than these two prophecies present,—the one particularly a condition of peace; the other a condition of war, until the great Judgment of God shall close the scene, and the earth shall receive its sentence of doom.

WHICH IS TRUE?

Are both prophecies true? Let us turn again to the one in Isaiah, and note some of its particulars. The Christian religion, represented by "the mountain of Jehovah's house," has indeed shown itself superior to all the various religions of the world, represented by "the hills"; and all the nations of the earth have accorded it outward honor and respect; and from among all these nations, there are those who have accepted it. But this acceptance, in a great many cases, is nominal; and where Christianity is accepted by a nation itself, and established as a national religion, it is always nominal.

Christianity is a religion of the heart and life, and no man knows it that does not know the power of Christianity in his life. It does not stand in comparison with other religions, but in direct contrast to them all. The world is selfish. Its ambitions are selfish. Its whole motive is self-centered. Humanity is fallen. It does not know Christ, and hence does not know the peace that comes through His sacrifice and the surrender of self.

The nations know nothing of this. The whole aim and ambition in each nation is to build up itself. The sacrifice must be on the part of others. Nor are nations converted as nations. Men can only be converted individually through the Lord Jesus Christ by faith. Therefore where nations adopt or seek to establish any religion, it is only the outward form, and not the essential inward life. Christianity is a life, and the life of Christianity purges away and burns up the selfishness of the man who receives it. Nations have not been converted that way; and yet with the sentiments of Christianity that have been spread abroad, they have come to count and call themselves Christian. Christian ceremonies, so-called, are connected with every great function of state. The rulers are themselves christened in babyhood by Christian ceremonies. They are crowned under Christian auspices. But the work that they do is anything but Christian, and consequently the aims and ambitions of such unregenerate hearts are bound to issue in unchristian things. They may promise peace, but there is no peace when there is no peace with God.

So in the words of the prophet, "the wicked are like the troubled sea, when it can not rest, whose waters cast up mire and dirt. There is no peace, saith my God, to the wicked."

WHOSE IS THE PREDICTION OF PEACE?

In the light of this, we may understand the prophecy of Isaiah 2. It is *not* God that says, "Come ye, and let us go up to the mountain of Jehovah." It is *not* God that says, "We will walk in His paths." It is *not* God that says, "He will judge between the nations," that "they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning-hooks." It is the "many peoples" and the "many nations" who say this, and who declare that Jehovah says it. But it is not Jehovah who says it. And He calls His people "soothsayers" for saying it, worthy to be forsaken. It is the great false cry of peace that men are raising in the world today, which will not issue in peace, but which will issue, according to the prophecy of Joel, fulfilling before our very eyes constantly, in the increasing armaments and preparations among the nations of the earth.

A DEMONSTRATED PROPHECY

How true is the prophecy of Joel, demonstrated before the eyes of all continually! "Prepare war"; men are preparing war. "Stir up the mighty men"; and the mighty men are stirred. "Let all the men of war draw near, let them come up"; and from every land men are turning their faces toward the great center of conflict to-day, to join their regiments. "Beat your plowshares into swords, and your pruning-hooks into spears"; and how true is it that the finest and strongest and most effective metals of the world are placed at the service of war, and all the nations are vying with each other in the hurry of preparation! Even the weak ones are saying, "I am strong." Little Belgium withstands the mighty German army for days. In such a time as this, all the peace conventions and treaties are ropes of sand.

So they are gathering for the great harvest-time. Jesus says, in Matt. 13:39, that the harvest is the end of the world. The valley of Jehoshaphat is where Jehovah judges. The "valley of decision" is the time when men are deciding either for God or against Him, as the whole world will soon decide.

NOT THE END

The fulfilment of these things is set forth in other articles in this issue much more fully than we can present it here. We place before the reader the contrast of these two prophecies, and say further, that this present conflict will not be the end. God has told us that when that end does come, the winds of strife and war will be blowing from every quarter, and there shall be "a great whirlwind." Jer. 25:32. Read the whole chapter.

In another prophecy, in Rev. 7:1-3, is given another picture, which precedes the fulfilment of Jeremiah 25. In that prophecy, the four winds of earth which would cause the fearful battle predicted by Jeremiah, are ready to blow; but God is sending out His mighty messengers to the various parts of earth, aided by noble men, who hold the winds until His own work is done in the earth, until His own servants are sealed, ready for His coming. Then the winds of strife will be permitted to blow, and the end will come.

The great battle of Armageddon will be fought, but not now. God's work is not yet

finished. God is still taking time to gather out from all the nations a people who will honor Him throughout eternity, and reveal to all the worlds in the universe "the praise of the glory of His grace" in taking fallen humanity, at enmity with God, and winning them to yield to Him, changing their character so that they shall rejoice in the privilege of serving Him in glorious freedom forever and ever.

Reader, do not be deceived by the false cry of peace. There will come a time when all the world will believe itself to be at peace; but "when they shall say, Peace and safety; then sudden destruction cometh upon them; . . . and they shall not escape." 1 Thess. 5:3. The only hope of peace, the only lasting peace, is peace first of all with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Sunday on a Par with the Manchu Cue

By W. E. Gillis, in Chinese "Signs of the Times"

MANY of the Christians living in the civilized countries of the world know that Sunday is not the Sabbath the Creator Himself instituted and enshrined in the fourth commandment of the Decalogue, but that the true Sabbath is the day now generally called Saturday.

Why do they ignore the fact when inspiration, in Gen. 2:1-3 and Mark 2:27, 28, so clearly reveals that the seventh-day Sabbath was made for man—the first man on this earth—when there was not a Jew at all? The reason I will tell you, but it is like the excuse for sin—a house built on sand and of sand.

In the fourth century after Christ, when the Christian church at Rome came under the control of ambitious men who joined in confederacy with Constantine, the head of the Roman Empire, Sunday, the sacred day of the sun-worshippers, was substituted in the church for the Sabbath of the Lord. For centuries cruel laws compelled its observance, until at the present time Sunday is almost universally observed, and the people for the most part had become ignorant of its origin.

This extraordinary thing is paralleled by the people of China, who were compelled by Shun Tz, their Manchu conqueror, to wear a cue. So long had this custom prevailed, the Chinese people universally believed that to discard it would be a denial of their native land. But when the true origin of the custom was revealed, during the revolution three years ago, almost all China arose with a true spirit of patriotism and had the humiliating symbol struck off.

But what a pity, although the true origin of Sunday as a symbol of the captivity of the church to Constantine is now well known, very few Christians are loyal enough to God to have the symbol of their humiliation struck off! I pray the Lord to enable us by His grace to be loyal to His commandments and the observance of the true Sabbath.

"THOSE who know that they can not possibly save themselves, or of themselves do any righteous action, are the ones who appreciate the help that Christ can bestow. They are the poor in spirit, whom He declares to be blessed."

"And the Nations Were Angry"

Rev. 11:18

"We hear the long roll sounding; and the greatest armies that the world has ever known, are falling into line."—*Heralds of the Morning.*



The above quotation from Rev. 11:18 is one of thirty chapter headings to be found in "HERALDS OF THE MORNING." This chapter alone contains 51 pages, and in it the author clearly shows that the present European clash of arms is a fulfilment of prophetic Scripture.

Some of the other subjects considered are: "The Startling Increase of Crime," "The Enormous Expenditure in War Preparations," "Terrible and Destructive Storms," "The Heaping Up of Treasure," "A Remarkable Century," "The Social Vice."

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OF THE

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Dr. Wadsworth, general superintendent of the California Dry Federation, says that when he received the Temperance Campaign Number of the *Signs*, he found it so absorbingly interesting that he sat right down and read it clear through, and he declares it one of the best things on the subject that he had ever seen. One society in the Northwest has ordered 55,000 copies of this paper.

Eighteen presidents, twenty governors, and several judges, doctors, labor leaders, gospel workers, soldiers, and even some liquor men, are quoted.

Thousands of noble men and women the country over are working with might and main to stamp out Demon Rum. Is there not need of just such self-sacrificing work in your neighborhood? If so, why not enroll to-day in this army of workers?

These papers may be ordered from any of our depositories (see list on page 15) or from the publishers of this journal. Prices: single copy, 5c; five to thirty copies, 3c each; forty or more, 2 1/2c each. On orders of 5,000 or more a special rate of 2c will be given.

possibly a better term would be heart irritants. They produce constriction of the blood-vessels of the body, thus increasing the blood pressure; and the increased blood pressure causes distention of the blood-vessels of the brain, where the walls are thinnest, and what is termed cerebral hyperæmia. This intra-cranial pressure causes headache.

A SAFE REMEDY

The coal-tar products, being heart depressants, afford almost instant relief from such headaches. But a far safer procedure would be to make cold applications to the head, and at the same time place the feet in hot water. It is more rational to draw the blood from the brain in this manner than to shut it off with acetanilid.

THE PERMANENT RIDDANCE

The only way to get rid of these periodical headaches permanently is by the removal of the cause or causes. There are many persons who, by merely giving up the use of tea or coffee, have ridded themselves of headaches which had afflicted them for years. Others, by cutting down or out their use of flesh foods, have accomplished the same results. Still others, on ridding themselves of constipation, have ceased to have these periodical headaches.

If you are unable to ascertain the cause of a headache, a thorough examination by a competent physician is recommended. But whatever you do, or do not do, never take these headache remedies that give instant relief.

Plague in the South

IT is not long since general alarm was felt on the Pacific coast because of the occurrence of a few cases of black plague in some of the ports, and its spread from the rats, by means of which it was imported, to the native ground-squirrel. This infection has disappeared, or become latent; but now the country is attacked from a new side, that is, at New Orleans.

Two cases were reported about June 28, one of them proving fatal. Thirteen human cases and twelve infected rats were discovered up to July 26. Immediately after the discovery of the first cases, most rigorous quarantine measures were invoked. A campaign of rat extermination on the largest scale ever attempted in this country was begun, and this and other measures were placed in charge of Surgeon-General Rupert Blue, of the United States army and the national health service. The condition of the city had not been the best from a sanitary standpoint, and a general clean-up was ordered. The infected districts were quarantined, and surrounded by a rat-proof fence. The federal and state health offices rushed their best talent to the scene. Rat-proofing of all the buildings in the city, and a general screening of all places of food storage, was undertaken, and stringent regulations as to the disposal of garbage were passed.

Quarantine regulations against New Orleans, as well as against the ports of Cuba, where a few cases have been reported, were put in force in New York.

The source of the infection is a mystery. Special precautions against typhus and yellow fever were taken by the officers of the

federal health service; but in some way, this worse infection passed the quarantine defenses.

It is gratifying to note that no further cases have been reported lately.

WILL S. SPICER.

The White Page

THE other day, while waiting for my hostess, I picked up a paper from her table which stated that it was devoted to "New Testament Christianity," whatever that may be. The expression brought to mind what a European once said: "Tear out the white page which divides the Old Testament from the New, and what have you? — One book." God did not put that blank page there. Nor was there any when Jesus "expounded unto them in all the Scriptures the things concerning Himself."

J. H. H.

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Signs of the Times

MOUNTAIN VIEW, CALIFORNIA, AUGUST 25, 1914

The Overbalancing Power of Russia

AT this writing, the European war has been in progress two weeks. A writer in the London *Daily News* says that the balance of power between the European nations is the great focal point, and it appears to him that the greatest danger lies in the possibility that when the war is over, there will be an overbalance in favor of Russia. Hence he thinks that England will be under the necessity of striking hard blows, so that upon the division of the spoils, she will be able to obtain her just share.

There are some very interesting problems for the student of prophecy, in connection with this overbalancing power of Russia. The state religion of Russia is Greek Catholic; and the prophetic Word makes it clear that the great Catholic powers will unite as one, right at the close of the struggles of earth, immediately before the second coming of Christ. And when the Catholic power is thus united, she will find supporting her, all the Protestant governments of the world.

There is no branch of heathenism that will not submit to Catholic influence, except Mohammedans. These have always opposed the papal church. In the middle ages the marauding Mohammedan hordes were the terror of Catholicism. In one time, when a comet was conspicuous in the heavens, one of the common prayers of Catholic Europe was, that the Lord would save them from the devil, the Turk, and the comet.

At the last, when the papal power is struggling for supremacy, and when degenerate Protestantism is aiding her, she will find the only rebellious influence to be this consistent enemy that has opposed her through the centuries. Hence we may expect a terrific clash between united Catholicism federated

with a Protestantism that no longer protests, and the incorrigible Mohammedan, who insists that there is only one God, that Mohammed is His prophet, and therefore that the pope and his images of saints are altogether out of place.

That great clash between Mohammedanism and nominal Christianity may not be the immediate outgrowth of this war; but before this war is over, we will doubtless see developments that will be manifestly working toward that great end.

This is a time when men should be studying God's word, earnestly and prayerfully, so that they may gain an intelligent conception of the meaning of the great world events, as they stand so clearly outlined against the background of prophecy.

Socialist Activity

THE socialists of America have devoted one week, beginning September 6, to a special campaign for the propagation of their doctrines through lectures, the circulation of literature, etc. Great mass-meetings are to be held in cities, villages, and rural districts. One special feature will be an effort to secure enrolment of members in their organization.

In a similar manner, a week was recently devoted to their work in Germany. As a result, they increased their membership in that empire by one hundred and fifty thousand, and took over one

Appeal to Our Friends

Your cooperation is wanted. Everybody is intensely interested, many are deeply concerned, over the clash of arms in Europe. War bulletins and newspapers are eagerly read. They are all right so far as they go, but they do not satisfy. People wish to know the significance of this and similar disturbances that come upon the world so suddenly nowadays. The Bible tells, and it is clearly pointed out in the columns of the "Signs of the Times," as you know. The widest publicity possible should be given to this fact. May we not count on you to cut out the blank on page 14, present the matter to your friends and others, and secure subscriptions from them for three or six months? A little help from each one will increase this journal's power for good, and your efforts in its behalf will be greatly appreciated.



Portable bake-ovens of the German commissary department. This battery of ovens furnishes 16,000 loaves of bread daily for one division of the army. © Underwood & Underwood, N. Y.

hundred thousand subscriptions to their party papers.

The activities and success of the socialists furnish much subject-matter for reflection. Were it not that conditions are becoming more and more unbearable in the world, the socialist would not get such a ready audience and so many readers for his literature. The success of his work is an unmistakable symptom of the social disease that is sapping the vitality of every nation on earth.

Special Temperance Number

THE Special Temperance Number bears the date of September 1. We printed a first edition of twenty-five thousand. But a single order for five thousand from our North Pacific Conference, together with numerous smaller orders, has exhausted that edition, and a second issue is on the press.

Under C. W. Flaiz, president of the North Pacific Union Conference, writes that our people of that section are enthusiastic over the temperance question, and are pushing the circulation of literature with vigor, and are doing everything else they can do for the advancement of the good cause.

We have received many words of appreciation for this temperance special. It is packed full of important and telling facts. The plan is, to push its

circulation until the time of the elections this fall.

This Temperance Number has already been mailed to our subscribers, so they have opportunity to see it for themselves. We are encouraged by the hearty efforts that are put forth to give it a wide circulation.

Many Do Not Know

MANY people in this time are greatly perplexed over world problems and the difficulties and distress they see arising on every hand.

This perplexity could all be removed if these individuals would only take time to study the clear word of God. They are terrified because of the spirit of war that they know exists everywhere; but did these same persons know what the prophets have said concerning this, and what it portends, they could find a means of quieting their fears.

Then there is the great strife between capital and labor, and the consequent rioting and internal revolutions that are threatened in every nation of the globe. This is causing many people to quail with fear. But this condition created by the conflict between the capitalist and the laboring man is also a matter of definite prophecy.

Vice and corruption and fraud, as well as robberies and murders, are alarmingly on the increase. We have also the increasing number of storms of every character, including earthquakes.

All these things have passed under the review of the prophets, and the meaning has been foretold.

In fact, the meaning of all the conditions in the world to-day that are causing uneasiness of mind has been made clear in the inspired Word. And they are not foretold in ambiguous prophecies that are difficult to understand, but in the clearest way God has made known that these things would exist in this generation.

If you are standing in the light of God's prophetic truth, and if you have learned to know the divine Father and His blessed Son, our Saviour, none of these things give you any fear or anxiety, for you know what they mean, and with thrills of joy that are indescribable, you are looking forward to the

great event of the second coming of Christ, of which all these things are tokens and signs.

CERTAIN brewers and distillers appear to be very nervous lest prohibition may destroy the grape and the hop industry. But instead of destroying these industries, the success of prohibition will destroy the most merciless, unscrupulous, and greedy trust of this or any other age. The liquor trust is the one thing that will be affected by prohibition. But the men who are concerned in that organization, already have more money than they know what to do with, and are therefore not entitled to our sympathy.

THE Church Peace Union has called a world conference, to meet in Constance, Switzerland. At the same time, a Roman Catholic peace conference will convene at Liege, Belgium. So says the *Independent* of August 3. Whether these peace unions meet or not is a grave question, considering Europe's unpeaceful attitude at this time. And thus again we are reminded of the Scriptural statement that many will cry, "Peace, peace; when there is no peace." L. A. R.

THE pope calls alcoholism "the terrible scourge, the enemy of souls and bodies, which drags after it so many moral miseries." "It ruins" "health, intelligence, conscience, and liberty."