

# Signs of the Times

PACIFIC PRESS PUBLISHING ASSOCIATION  
MOUNTAIN VIEW, CALIFORNIA



BRITISH BATTERY IN FRANCE BEING PLACED IN POSITION FOR LONG RANGE FIRING

© Boston Photo News Co.

## “Stir Up the Mighty Men”

A Thrilling Prediction — Plowshares to Be Made into Swords, and Pruning-Hooks into Spears — Even the Weak Nations to Be Mighty in Battle — Significance of Calamities and Wars — A Shelter from the Breaking Storm



**T**HIS conflagration of war that is sweeping Europe, and involving a large part of Asia, and portions of Africa, is staggering humanity. Thousands of people are earnestly asking the question, “What does it mean?” Instinctively many minds are turned toward the word of God, to know if it offers any suggestions or throws any light upon the terrible situation.

In numerous articles since this war began, various writers have called attention, through our columns, to portions of the prophetic Word which very accurately describe the situation that we find in the world.

One of the plain scriptures upon this subject that has not as yet been presented and commented upon very extensively is the following:

“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. The sun and the moon are darkened, and the stars withdraw their shining. And Jehovah will roar from Zion, and utter His voice from Jerusalem; and the heavens and the earth shall shake: but Jehovah will be a refuge unto His people, and a stronghold to the children of Israel.” Joel 3:9-16, Revised Version.



## THE TIME OF THE PROPHECY

There should be no mistaking the meaning of this most vivid prophecy, nor the period when it applies. It refers to a time when multitudes upon multitudes are "in the valley of decision," when the day of the Lord is near, and when God is about to judge all the nations. In that awfully solemn hour, we are not only to have great strife among the nations, as is shown by the prophecy, but there will be commotions and upheavals on the earth that will make the heavens and the earth shake as "Jehovah will roar from Zion, and utter His voice from Jerusalem," in the great day of judgments and calamities. It is the time when God has given the command, "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." Joel 3:13, Revised Version.

Great wickedness, barbarous cruelties, and inhuman deeds of men are calling for God to put an end to the scenes of sin, and to bring in everlasting righteousness. In this great Judgment hour the text says, "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." Then the proclamation of war, the stirring up of the mighty men, and the drawing near of the men of war to their ferocious combats, will be some of the things that will strikingly characterize the days when God is upon the throne of Judgment, passing upon the actions and deeds of men.

## THE AUTHORS OF THE WAR SPIRIT

God is not the author of these scenes of war. The sixteenth chapter of Revelation shows that the spirits of demons will be the powers that go to the kings of the earth and the whole world to gather them to the great war of God the Almighty. God does not create the war spirit. He is not the author of any of this bloodshed and confusion. But He knew in advance what Satan would do, as he is permitted to exhibit himself before the universe. The divine Father has foretold his diabolical workings, so that when these things should come to pass, we might have confidence in God's word, and stand under His sheltering protection.

## "BEAT YOUR PLOWSHARES INTO SWORDS"

Not only is war to be proclaimed by these mighty men, but so intense will become their efforts in making everything conserve and advance their war preparations, that it will even be said, "Beat your plowshares into swords, and your pruning-hooks into spears." The demon gods of war will seek ruthlessly and recklessly to swallow everything. They will not regard the needs of hungry, suffering humanity; but every resource will be employed to render assistance in preparing for the indescribable carnage of the inhuman wars of the closing days of time.

## "LET THE WEAK SAY, I AM STRONG"

To use the language of the text, it is to be said, "Let the weak say, I am strong."



Photo Boston Photo News Co.

UPPER PART OF A FRENCH AEROPLANE, SHOWING THE RAPID FIRE GUN MOUNTED ON TOP

Even the so-called weak nations, like Belgium, Servia, Montenegro, and other little kingdoms, will show themselves strong in battle. The furies of war take possession of the minds of men, and madden them for the strife.

Notice that the prophecy calls for the nations round about to gather themselves together to the great conflict. The nations are to bestir themselves, and come up to the valley of Jehoshaphat. That valley is to the east of Jerusalem, lying very near the site of the ancient city.

This prophecy furnishes added evidence that the operations of the great war of Armageddon will center in Palestine; for while this prophecy calls the armies into the valley of Jehoshaphat, the one in the sixteenth chapter of Revelation calls the armies to the neighborhood of Mount Megiddo, which is in the valley of Esdraelon, something like sixty miles north of Jerusalem.

This prophecy is also Jehovah's prediction of the war conditions that will obtain in the last days, when the great Judgment hour has come.

## WRITTEN FOR OUR ADMONITION

We must not allow ourselves to become confused in the references to Zion and the city of Jerusalem, toward the close of the text; for while, as suggested in connection with one of our articles last week, many of these prophecies had a local and incidental reference to things that occurred about the literal Jerusalem, yet the apostle Paul says they all "happened unto them for ensamples: and they are written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the world are come." 1 Cor. 10:11.

God did not write His great prophetic utterances that refer to the Judgment-day, merely for people who lived in Jerusalem two thousand years ago. These prophecies are



AN ENGLISH MILITARY CAMP

© Boston Photo News Co.

for us who are living now, and they are being literally fulfilled in the world by conditions that are occurring all about us. We not only have these great strifes of war, but the earth is visited as never before by tornado, hurricane, flood, and fire, that are spreading desolation and destruction everywhere. And we not only have these independent prophe-

cies, such as the one from Joel which we are studying this week, but we have numerous lines of prophecy that point with unmistakable accuracy to this very generation as the one that is to see the consummation of earth's career of sin, and witness the second coming of Christ.

## TO THE ONE WHO WISHES TO KNOW

The caviler has always been able to find excuses for disbelieving the word of God, or interpreting away its clear utterances, particularly in prophetic lines. But we address ourselves to the individual who desires to know God's truth, and who is praying that God's Spirit, through His word, may fulfil the Master's promise to guide him into all truth. For all such, the words of inspiration are clear.

## NO NEED TO FEAR

There is no need of any alarm or fear to those who recognize the truth of the divine Book; for although we are standing in the presence of the most awful wars and the most fearful calamities that this world has ever seen, yet has God promised definitely that He will protect and care for those who place their trust in Him. To this end, read and ponder carefully the following comforting words of the psalmist:

"He that dwelleth in the secret place of the Most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty. I will say of the Lord, He is my refuge and my fortress: my God; in Him will I trust. Surely He shall deliver thee from the snare of the fowler, and from the noisome pestilence. He shall cover thee with His feathers, and under His wings shalt thou trust: His truth shall be thy shield and buckler. Thou shalt not be afraid for the terror by night; nor for the arrow that flieth by day; nor for the pestilence that walketh in darkness; nor for the destruction that wasteth at noonday. A thousand shall fall at thy side, and ten thousand at thy right hand; but it shall not come nigh thee. Only with thine eyes shalt thou behold and see the reward of the wicked. Because thou hast made the Lord, which is my refuge, even the Most High, thy habitation; there shall no evil befall thee, neither shall any plague come nigh thy dwelling. For He shall give His angels charge over thee, to keep thee in all thy ways." Ps. 91:1-11.

When the world is visited with deadly pestilence; when there is the terror by night and the arrow by day; when destruction is wasting on every hand, and a thousand are falling in one place and ten thousand in another—God says that even in that time, His protection for His children will be so great that they will not be afraid for any of these things.

Do you know this protection? Do you know this shelter? Are you personally acquainted with this blessed Saviour, who

is yearning to protect you now, and to save you in the near-by day of His coming?

"It is a continual struggle to be always on the alert to resist evil; but it pays to obtain one victory after another over self and the powers of darkness."



# Heathen Shocked at "Christian Europe"

Agitation in India to Send Missionaries to the "Christian Nations" — Shocked by Their Spirit of War — Feelings Expressed before the War Broke Out

By HOMER R. SALISBURY

Superintendent Mission Work in India

THIS article from Elder H. R. Salisbury was written just as war was breaking out in Europe. His letter that accompanied the article made no reference to the war. He was in the interior visiting some of our mission stations, and without question had not learned that war had been declared between Austria and Serbia, which occurred just the second day before the date of his letter. This article, coming under such circumstances, shows in a very remarkable manner how the war spirit of Europe was impressing itself upon the people in India even before the war broke out. As expressed by Elder Salisbury, the people over there recognize the fact that the fearful preparations for war actually mean war.

It will doubtless come as a surprise to many Christians in the West to learn that heathen of the East are putting forth an effort to send "competent missionaries" to Europe to convert her, and "save her from her threatened doom before her nations destroy one another in a great European war."

## THEY THINK IT MEANS WAR

The cable, the telegraph, and the daily paper have brought the West to the East. The raising of new war loans, the launching of super-Dreadnoughts, the increasing of land forces unparalleled in history, the insatiable greed for territory, and the distrust and jealousy existing between countries, receive prominent mention and are critically commented upon by the public press in India. While sentimentalists close their eyes to facts, and prate of the imminence of universal peace at a time when the nations of Europe are beggaring themselves to overreach each other in their preparations for war, the East is learning the facts, and believes that this mad preparation for war means war.

## GOD NOT RECOGNIZED

Because the peoples of the West call themselves Christian nations, while by their actions they repudiate the principles of peace lived and taught by the One whose name they have taken, they have subjected themselves to severe criticism by non-Christians, as will appear by the following quotation from the editor of the *Amrita Bazar Patrika*, a daily paper published in Calcutta, having a large circulation among Hindus:

"France in the height of her prosperity deposed the Almighty God. This was during the great Revolution. Europe has, however, reinstated Him, but with a constitution. God no doubt reigns in Europe now, but He does not rule. He is only a constitutional sovereign there; for as a free people, the Europeans choose to govern themselves, though they accept the need of a king, bound hand and foot by a constitution.

"That God has no authority in Europe is evidenced from the fact that even His most pronounced wishes are not respected in that continent. God declared that men were all brethren, and Jesus came mainly to impress that idea on the minds of the people in the West. But the invention of the Maxim gun, and later on, the aeroplane (for war), shows what little regard they pay to the injunctions of the Messiah they profess to love and worship."

Even the non-Christian peoples of India recognize that these conditions exist because Christ does not have His place as Lord and Master in the lives of those who formally profess to follow His teachings, and that peace can never come while men show by their actions that their hearts are filled with greed and hatred.

The editor of *Patrika* continues:

"Europe is in need of a living religion, or that continent will one day disappear from the face of the earth. They have now twenty-five to thirty millions of regular soldiers there. These are trained like bloodhounds, and all humane sentiments are systematically

sought to be eradicated out of their hearts. Let there be one great European war now, with each power appearing in the field with its millions of soldiers and thousands of Maxim guns and aeroplanes, and Europe is desolated.

"Europe finds itself in this condition because it has no religion. Yet her nations have a superabundance of energy. That being so, what else can they do but slaughter, overreach, and beggar one another when they have no God to control them? Superabundance of energy is good, but when it is not controlled by religion it becomes very dangerous."

It is humiliating to be rebuked by such words, and we could but wish that there were not so much truth in them. It must be evident that such comments as have just been quoted, when put before those who are already too well pleased with their ancient religions, make the already difficult task of the Christian missionary doubly hard.

## REPROACHED BY HEATHEN

The missionary has not only to battle with the subtle and pernicious influence of these Eastern religions, whose doctrines are so pleasing to the natural man and so deadly to

spiritual growth, but what often seems harder, he must meet the reproaches cast upon his own religion by those who have judged Christianity by its fruit as it appears in the life of those who, while professing to follow the same Christ whom the missionaries exalt as the hope of mankind, put Him to open shame by their words and actions.

But God is jealous of His great name; and though darkness covers the earth and gross darkness the people, His glory will be seen in the lives of those who delight to exalt Him, and who believe that "as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up: that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have eternal life." And so through His blessed providence many are forsaking their idols, devil-worship, and the teaching of the false prophet, and led by the true light, are looking upward with longing hearts for the coming King.

"If a man wants to be strong in the Lord, he must feed on the bread of life."



© Boston Photo News Co.

EMPEROR WILLIAM (LEFT), WITH HIS GENERALS, CONSULTING WAR MAP ON THE FIELD



# Effect of the Mind on the Health

Cultivate Contentment and Joy — The Great Source of Rest and Peace — Help for Every Trial — There Is No Virtue in Continual Mourning

By MRS. E. G. WHITE

THE relation that exists between the mind and the body is very intimate. When one is affected, the other sympathizes. The condition of the mind affects the health to a far greater degree than many realize. Many of the diseases from which men suffer are the result of mental depression. Grief, anxiety, discontent, remorse, guilt, distrust, all tend to break down the life forces, and to invite decay and death.

## A CONTENTED MIND AND HEALTH

Courage, hope, faith, sympathy, love, promote health and prolong life. A contented mind, a cheerful spirit, is health to the body and strength to the soul. "A merry [rejoicing] heart doeth good like a medicine." Prov. 17: 22.

For those who would regain or preserve health there is a lesson in the words of Scripture, "Be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be filled with the Spirit." Eph. 5: 18. Not through the excitement or oblivion produced by unnatural or unhealthful stimulants, not through indulgence of the lower appetites or passions, is to be found true healing or refreshment for the body or the soul.

Among the sick are many who are without God and without hope. They suffer from ungratified desires, disordered passions, and the condemnation of their own consciences. They are losing their hold upon this life, and they have no prospect for the life to come. Let not the attendants upon the sick hope to benefit these patients by granting them frivolous, exciting indulgences. These have been the curse of their lives. The hungry, thirsting soul will continue to hunger and thirst so long as it seeks to find satisfaction here. Those who drink at the fountain of selfish pleasure are deceived. They mistake hilarity for strength; and when the excitement ceases, their inspiration ends, and they are left to discontent and despondency.

## THE ONE SOURCE OF REST AND PEACE

Abiding peace, true rest of spirit, has but one source. It was of this that Christ spoke when He said, "Come unto Me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." Matt. 11: 28. "Peace I leave with you, My peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you." John 14: 27. This peace is not something that He gives apart from Himself. It is in Christ, and we can receive it only by receiving Him.

## THE WHOLE BEING OPENED TO HEAVEN'S HEALING AGENCIES

Christ is the well-spring of life. That which many need is to have a clearer knowledge of Him. They need to be patiently and kindly, yet earnestly, taught how the whole being may be thrown open to the healing agencies of heaven. When the sunlight of God's love illuminates the darkened chambers of the soul, restless weariness and dissatisfaction will cease, and satisfying joys will

give vigor to the mind, and health and energy to the body.

## UNNECESSARILY HEAVY

We are in a world of suffering. Difficulty, trial, and sorrow await us all along the way to the heavenly home. But there are many who make life's burdens doubly heavy by continually anticipating trouble. If they meet with adversity or disappointment, they think that everything is going to ruin, that theirs is the hardest lot of all, that they are surely coming to want. Thus they bring wretchedness upon themselves, and cast a shadow upon all around them. Life itself becomes a burden to them. But it need not be thus.

It will cost a determined effort to change the current of their thought. But the change can be made. Their happiness, both for this life and for the life to come, depends upon

AMONG the sick are many who are without God and without hope. They suffer from ungratified desires, disordered passions, and the condemnation of their own consciences. They are losing their hold upon this life, and they have no prospect for the life to come. Let not the attendants upon the sick hope to benefit these patients by granting them frivolous, exciting indulgences. These have been the curse of their lives. The hungry, thirsting soul will continue to hunger and thirst so long as it seeks to find satisfaction here. Those who drink at the fountain of selfish pleasure are deceived. They mistake hilarity for strength; and when the excitement ceases, their inspiration ends, and they are left to discontent and despondency.

their fixing their minds upon cheerful things. Let them look away from the dark picture, which is imaginary, to the benefits which God has strewn in their pathway, and beyond these to the unseen and eternal.

## HELP FOR EVERY TRIAL

For every trial, God has provided help. When Israel in the desert came to the bitter waters of Marah, Moses cried unto the Lord. The Lord did not provide some new remedy; He called attention to that which was at hand. A shrub which He had created was to be cast into the fountain to make the water pure and sweet. When this was done, the people drank of the water and were refreshed.

In every trial, if we seek Him, Christ will give us help. Our eyes will be opened to discern the healing promises recorded in His

word. The Holy Spirit will teach us how to appropriate every blessing that will be an antidote to grief. For every bitter draught that is placed to our lips, we shall find a branch of healing.

## "LET HIM TAKE HOLD OF MY STRENGTH"

We are not to let the future, with its hard problems, its unsatisfying prospects, make our hearts faint, our knees tremble, our hands hang down. "Let him take hold of My strength," says the Mighty One, "that he may make peace with Me; and he shall make peace with Me." Isa. 27: 5.

Those who surrender their lives to His guidance and to His service will never be placed in a position for which He has not made provision. Whatever our situation, if we are doers of His word, we have a Guide to direct our way; whatever our perplexity, we have a sure Counselor; whatever our sorrow, bereavement, or loneliness, we have a sympathizing Friend.

None need abandon themselves to discouragement and despair. Satan may come to you with the cruel suggestion, "Yours is a hopeless case. You are irredeemable." But there is hope for you in Christ. God does not bid us overcome in our own strength. He asks us to come close to His side. Whatever difficulties we labor under, which weigh down soul and body, He waits to make us free.

He who took humanity upon Himself knows how to sympathize with the sufferings of humanity. Not only does Christ know every soul, and the peculiar needs and trials of that soul, but He knows all the circumstances that chafe and perplex the spirit. His hand is outstretched in pitying tenderness to every suffering child. Those who suffer most have most of His sympathy and pity. He is touched with the feeling of our infirmities, and He desires us to lay our perplexities and troubles at His feet, and leave them there.

## SHOULD NOT GO MOURNING

Nothing tends more to promote health of body and of soul than does a spirit of gratitude and praise. It is a positive duty to resist melancholy, discontented thoughts and feelings,—as much a duty as it is to pray. If we are heaven-bound, how can we go as a band of mourners, groaning and complaining all along the way to our Father's house?

Those professed Christians who are constantly complaining, and who seem to think cheerfulness and happiness a sin, have not genuine religion. Those who take a mournful pleasure in all that is melancholy in the natural world; who choose to look upon dead leaves rather than to gather the beautiful living flowers; who see no beauty in grand mountain heights and in valleys clothed with living green; who close their senses to the joyful voice which speaks to them in nature, and which is sweet and musical to the listening ear,—these are not in Christ. They are gathering to themselves gloom and darkness, when they might have brightness, even the



Sun of righteousness arising in their hearts with healing in His beams.

Often your mind may be clouded because of pain. Then do not try to think. You know that Jesus loves you. He understands your weakness. You may do His will by simply resting in His arms.

It is a law of nature that our thoughts and feelings are encouraged and strengthened as we give them utterance. While words express thoughts, it is also true that thoughts follow words. If we would give more expression to our faith, rejoice more in the blessings that we know we have,—the great mercy and love of God,—we should have more faith and greater joy. No tongue can express, no finite mind can conceive, the blessing that results from appreciating the goodness and love of God. Even on earth we may have joy as a well-spring, never failing, because fed by the streams that flow from the throne of God.

#### COME INTO THE CHANNEL OF BLESSING

One of the surest hindrances to recovery of the sick is the centering of attention upon themselves. Many invalids feel that every one should give them sympathy and help, when what they need is to have their attention turned away from themselves, to think of and care for others.

Often prayer is solicited for the afflicted, the sorrowful, the discouraged; and this is right. We should pray that God will shed light into the darkened mind, and comfort the sorrowful heart. But God answers prayer for those who place themselves in the channel of His blessings. While we offer prayer for these sorrowful ones, we should encourage them to try to help those more needy than themselves. The darkness will be dispelled from their own hearts as they try to help others. As we seek to comfort others with the comfort wherewith we are comforted, the blessing comes back to us.

The fifty-eighth chapter of Isaiah is a prescription for maladies of the body and of the soul. If we desire health and the true joy of life, we must put into practise the rules given in this scripture. Of the service acceptable to Him, and its blessings, the Lord says:

"Is it not to deal thy bread to the hungry,  
And that thou bring the poor that are cast out  
to thy house?  
When thou seest the naked, that thou cover him;  
And that thou hide not thyself from thine own  
flesh?  
Then shall thy light break forth as the morning,  
And thine health shall spring forth speedily."

#### ONE OF THE BEST MEDICINES

Good deeds are twice a blessing, benefiting both the giver and the receiver of the kindness. The consciousness of right-doing is one of the best medicines for diseased bodies and minds. When the mind is free and happy from a sense of duty well done and the satisfaction of giving happiness to others, the cheering, uplifting influence brings new life to the whole being.

If those who are suffering from ill health would forget self in their interest for others, if they would fulfil the Lord's command to minister to those more needy than themselves, they would realize the truthfulness of the prophetic promise, "Then shall thy light break forth as the morning, and thine health shall spring forth speedily."

## The Kingdom of God Is Preached

Christ in His Supreme Conflict—His Signal Victory—His Kingdom Everlastingly Assured—  
Hence the Kingdom Is Now the Theme

By FRANCIS MONROE BURG

"THE law and the prophets were until John: since that time the kingdom of God is preached, and every man presseth into it." Luke 16: 16. The paramount question from the beginning has been, Who shall reign and have dominion over God's creation? Who is the rightful king? It was the will of God that in all things Christ should have preeminence. Col. 1: 18.

Lucifer questioned this right, and instigated a rebellion against God and His Son. As a result, he was cast out of heaven. Rev. 12: 9. We are now waiting for the consummation of the great plan that was devised to vindicate the throne of God and to redeem a disaffected world, when "every knee" shall bow, and "every tongue" shall "confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father." Phil. 2: 10, 11.

#### THE DEVIL CHERISHED A HOPE

When it was planned in heaven that the Son of God should become the Son of man,—that He should take upon Him the frailties of humanity, by His incarnation,—the devil began to cherish a hope that he might take advantage of Christ's human weakness, and by overcoming Him, thwart His plan to save the world.

So it is written that "the dragon stood before the woman, . . . for to devour her Child as soon as it was born." Rev. 12: 4. In other words, Satan anticipated the coming of Christ into the flesh, hoping to overcome Him, and thus to triumph in the plot that he devised in heaven before he was cast down to earth. He was permitted to make this last futile attempt to overthrow the Son of God, that the venom of his spirit might be fully manifested, and all question concerning his assumed right to reign be dissipated forever.

#### HIS ATTEMPTS TO DESTROY CHRIST

His first attempt was to destroy the Child that was born. To accomplish this, he inaugurated a wholesale slaughter of innocent children. But the manner of his frustration is familiar to all who have read the simple and pitiful story.

Then the enemy sought to tempt the Son of God and lead Him into sin. Notice his artful and wicked tactics. More than once he insinuates a doubt as to our Lord's relationship to Him with whom He had been from eternal ages,—*"If Thou be the Son of God."* But though weak and emaciated, the Principal of this conflict in the desert withstood the temptations and the cunning of His wily foe, and His confidence in Him who had sent Him remained unshaken.

Another and a last attempt was made to swerve Jesus from His allegiance to His Father. All the splendor of the world was caused to pass in panorama before Him, and was offered Him if He would acknowledge and worship the great usurper. O, the wickedness of this subtle plot to overcome and to overthrow the Son of God! Again Satan is defeated, and retreats before the words that were written, "Thou shalt wor-

ship the Lord thy God, and Him only shalt thou serve."

Then the malicious and murderous spirit could no longer be concealed. The enemy laid a wicked plot to take the life of Jesus. He still hoped to triumph over the One who had been recognized as Prince of the heavenly host. The Son of God was murdered and laid in a stone sepulcher. The seal of the Roman Empire was put upon the mouth of the cave, and a Roman guard stood by. Thank God, in a few short hours the last spark of hope in the heart of Satan was to perish forever! It vanished with the triumphant coming forth of Him of whom it has been triumphantly said ever since, "I am He that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive forevermore, Amen; and have the keys of hell and of death." Rev. 1: 18. All tension relaxes, and the triumphant shout goes up to heaven, "Now is come salvation, and strength, and the kingdom of our God, and the power of His Christ: for the accuser of our brethren is cast down"—is conquered.

At this point, attention is called to the fact that the great dragon who awaited the birth of the Child is represented as having "seven crowns upon his heads." As already noted, a crown signifies a kingdom. Seven means perfection, completeness, fulness. This symbol would suggest that when Satan encountered the Son of God in the flesh, he claimed all right to rule—all right to kingship. The seven crowns would suggest this fact. So the conflict at that time was identical with that in heaven when Lucifer said, "I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north: . . . I will be like the Most High." Isa. 14: 13, 14.

The battle was fought, and the rightful Lord and Sovereign broke the fetters by which the enemy had bound Him, and came forth triumphant forever, with the "keys of the kingdom."

#### TRIUMPHANT, AND VESTED WITH POWER

On that resurrection morning, Mary would have worshiped Him as her Master—her King. But He forbade her, saying, "Touch Me not; for I am not yet ascended to My Father." John 20: 16, 17. He must be assured first that He is recognized in heaven as the rightful Sovereign.

He ascends to God with a "multitude of captives." As He approaches the gate of the city, His attendants command in clarion tones that the gates be opened and the everlasting doors be lifted, that the King of glory may come in. There comes back the question, as if no other in that intense hour engaged the attention of heaven's inhabitants, "Who is this King of glory?" In clearest and triumphant accents the answer rings out, "The Lord strong and mighty, the Lord mighty in battle." Ps. 24: 7, 8.

He enters the city of Zion, her everlasting King. He is vested by His Father with all power—authority—in heaven and in earth. Matt. 28: 18. And to His servants His commission is given, and a full vestment of power, to go forth and win all nations to Him. To them He gave the "keys of the kingdom," with the promise that the gates—authority—of hell should not prevail against them. When this work is completed, He will come, King of kings, and Lord of lords, to reign forever and ever. He is crowned with many crowns. Rev. 19: 12, 16. "This gospel of the kingdom shall be



preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come." Matt. 24: 14.

#### THE GOSPEL IN THE SETTING OF THE KINGDOM

So now the gospel message is preached in the setting of the kingdom of God. It is the proclamation of the same salvation that was preached by Moses and the prophets, through the same Christ whose charms inspired all the messages of these men of old. Since He is risen and holds the keys, the story of His redeeming grace is set in the framework of the proclamation of His soon-coming kingdom; and we are waiting and praying that His kingdom may come, and His will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

In describing the church under the symbol of a woman who is to give all nations the good tidings of the coming kingdom of God, the revelator represents her as wearing a "crown of twelve stars." A crown signifies a kingdom—a very fitting symbol of the authority that is now vested in the church, since the conflict of her Lord, and His triumph over the very last of His foes, when He came forth from the fetters of

death; and also a fitting symbol of the victorious career of the church under the leadership of her triumphant Lord. In chapter six, the revelator again suggests the same thought. The gospel work is symbolized by a rider upon a white horse, and to him is given a crown; and he goes forth conquering and to conquer.

#### THE KINGDOM AND THE GOSPEL ARE PREACHED

From the thoughts that have been presented, it is clear why John the Baptist, when he began his preaching in the desert, said to the people, "Repent ye: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand." Matt. 3: 2. Jesus also gave the same admonition to those who came to hear Him. Matt. 4: 17. And in sending forth the twelve, He told them to say, "The kingdom of heaven is at hand." Matt. 10: 7.

So the gospel heralds now preach the message of the coming King, the while telling the story of His redeeming love,—the same story of love and free salvation that prior to John was preached by and through the law and the prophets.

"Think not that I am come to destroy the law, or the prophets." Matt. 5: 17.

thers thus, and did not our God bring all this evil upon us, and upon this city? yet ye bring more wrath upon Israel by profaning the Sabbath. And it came to pass, that when the gates of Jerusalem began to be dark before the Sabbath, I commanded that the gates should be shut, and charged that they should not be opened till after the Sabbath: and some of my servants set I at the gates, that there should no burden be brought in on the Sabbath day. So the merchants and sellers of all kind of ware lodged without Jerusalem once or twice. Then I testified against them, and said unto them, Why lodge ye about the wall? if ye do so again, I will lay hands on you. From that time forth came they no more on the Sabbath." Neh. 13: 15-21.

The testimony of this leader of Israel shows conclusively that the destruction of Jerusalem and their captivity came because of Sabbath transgression.

#### REFUSED TO FIGHT ON THE SABBATH

With this citation we are brought to the end of the Old Testament history of the Sabbath; but there is Jewish history of importance relating to the Sabbath and to the experience of the Jews in regard to the Sabbath before we reach the birth of Christ. At times during this period of more than four hundred years, the Jews suffered much persecution from the heathen on account of their religion.

In the reign of Antiochus Epiphanes, king of Syria, about B. C. 170, there was great oppression of the Jews, and thousands of them were slain. Probably no people ever suffered more intensely for their religious faith than did many of the Jews during this time. History tells how a thousand men, women, and children were slaughtered on the Sabbath day without resisting their executioners. They were simply hiding in the wilderness because they had refused to obey the heathen king's decree, which said they should profane the Sabbath day.

Also about the same time, King Antiochus sent twenty-two thousand soldiers into Jerusalem, who, pretending peace, waited until the holy Sabbath day came, then followed the people to their places of worship, and murdered great multitudes, and running through the city with instruments of destruction, slew great numbers without trial or mercy.

#### JEWISH LEADERS CHANGE TACTICS

But the Jews, seeing that their heathen enemies were selecting the Sabbath as a day on which to slaughter the non-resisting Sabbath-keepers, changed their conduct, and gave commandment to give battle when assaulted on the Sabbath day. The historian says that Mattathias, the father of Judas Maccabeus, and his friends, decreed that "whosoever shall come to make battle with us on the Sabbath day, we will fight against him; neither will we die all, as our brethren that were murdered in the secret places." 1 Mac. 2: 41.

Therefore, just before the days when Christ was upon the earth, the Sabbath question was in contention, and multitudes were slain in the controversy. The wicked "King Antiochus wrote to his whole kingdom, that all should be one people, and every one should leave his laws: so all the heathen agreed, according to the commandment of the king." 1 Mac. 1: 41, 42.

## Sabbath Desecration and Apostasy

The Jews Carried Captives to Babylon—Clear Testimony as to Why It Was Done—Thousands Slaughtered When They Would Not Fight on the Sabbath—Jewish Leaders Change Their Plans in Consequence

By WILLIAM COVERT

THE prophet Jeremiah was left in the land of Judah when the princes and many of the people were carried into Babylon as captives; but Ezekiel, a contemporary prophet, was God's spokesman for the captives, and was carried into Babylon.

Jeremiah wrote of the state of things in Jerusalem after the people were carried away. He spoke of the solitary condition of that city which had been so great. Her few poor people would weep in the night until their cheeks were wet with tears, because of the reverses that had overtaken them. He said: "Jerusalem remembered in the days of her affliction and of her miseries all her pleasant things that she had in the days of old: . . . the adversaries saw her, and did mock at her Sabbaths." Lam. 1: 2-7. The people passing by would hiss, and say in derision, "Is this the city that men call The perfection of beauty, The joy of the whole earth?" Lam. 2: 15.

#### THE HARVEST OF TRANSGRESSION

Their transgressions had borne fruit, and they were reaping the harvest of their own sowing. We follow the captives into the land of their exile, and listen to their prophet reciting to them the steps which led to their dispersion. It was idolatry mingled with Sabbath desecration that brought them into their troubles. Study Ezekiel, chapters 20-22, entire.

Toward the end of the seventy years of captivity in Babylon, there was a partial reformation on the part of Israel, and they were permitted to occupy again the land where their fathers had dwelt, and Jerusalem was rebuilt. It was then that Nehemiah, in a

prayer in the presence of that people, said to God, "Thou camest down also upon Mount Sinai, and spakest with them from heaven, and gavest them right judgments, and true laws, good statutes and commandments: and madest known unto them Thy holy Sabbath, and commandedst them precepts, statutes, and laws, by the hand of Moses Thy servant." Neh. 9: 13, 14.

#### TOOK PLEDGE OF SABBATH-KEEPING

This prayer was uttered about 445 B. C. The people were impressed with the importance of renewing their obedience to God, so they made a covenant, and set their seal to it, to refrain from Sabbath transgression from that time. Neh. 9: 38. The pledge they took read, "And if the people of the land bring ware or any victuals on the Sabbath day to sell, that we would not buy it of them on the Sabbath." Neh. 10: 31.

But Nehemiah did not abide with the people constantly, and so they again became negligent, and their covenant was forgotten. Then Nehemiah returned about B. C. 434; and he says: "In those days saw I in Judah some treading wine-presses on the Sabbath, and bringing in sheaves, and lading asses; as also wine, grapes, and figs, and all manner of burdens, which they brought into Jerusalem on the Sabbath day: and I testified against them in the day wherein they sold victuals. There dwelt men of Tyre also therein, which brought fish, and all manner of ware, and sold on the Sabbath unto the children of Judah, and in Jerusalem. Then I contended with the nobles of Judah, and said unto them, What evil thing is this that ye do, and profane the Sabbath day? Did not your fa-



This unholy decree, like all others of its kind, when interfering with men in matters of conscience, resulted in great cruelty. Many thousands were slain in the struggle which ensued. So will it ever be when men try to be conscience for their fellow men.

### Superstitious Use of the Bible

THE Bible is God's word, and should be used reverently and thoughtfully. Some make a practise of opening the Bible at random, and being guided by the first passage they see. While it may be that God has sometimes directed the mind in this way, yet as a rule it is not safe thus to risk the possibility of letting the devil guide the hand. The Bible tells us to *search* the Scriptures, and not use them in a haphazard way.

Texts taken from their proper setting are used by Satan to blind the eyes of those who are fanatical or superstitious. This use of the Bible savors of magic. A certain minister was once cured of this habit by consulting his Bible on an important matter, and opening it to the text, "Hell from beneath is moved for thee to meet thee at thy coming." ELIZA H. MORTON.

### The Sin of Being Sick Unnecessarily

AS "none of us liveth to himself, and no man dieth to himself," so one's state of health affects others, not only as it bears upon the question of his living or dying, but also as it tends to mark the degree to which he helps or hinders those whose lives touch his.

The trite assertion that many a prisoner has been hanged because of the judge's indigestion, recognizes one aspect of this subject. And as a person's digestion is controlled, in large measure, by his own habits, he is in the same measure responsible for the ills that result from its impairment.

Doubtless many errors against health are due to ignorance, but an unimpeachable authority reckons ignorance as sin. It certainly is not a thing to be hugged to one as a shield against self-conviction and reform.

In matters of health, as in those considered more strictly spiritual, the worst transgressors are the self-complacent—those who, while ignorant of the most important principles, either consider their fragmentary knowledge as all-inclusive, or else think the entire subject unimportant, mayhap even glorying in their disregard of its laws.

However, many failures to guard the health are due not to ignorance, but to indolence, or vanity, or greed, or appetite, or other equally ignoble causes. Few persons of ordinary intelligence are not cognizant of the fact that physical exercise is essential to health, and that a restriction of any organ of the body is incompatible with its normal function, also that chilling of the feet and ankles is a cause of divers maladies. Neither do many persons lack the knowledge that too long continued exertion of muscles or mind not only endangers the organs thus taxed, but also interferes with the operations of other organs, specially by keeping from them the supply of blood they need.

Not a few of those who despise the gourmand and the drunkard, are themselves victims of pampered appetite—appetite for confections, or for too highly seasoned

foods, or for the ordinary stimulating table beverages, as tea, coffee, and chocolate. That these beverages are stimulants merely, and not nutrients, is coming to be generally acknowledged by people who have given intelligent study to the subject.

Another fact that is becoming more widely recognized each year, is that the food of many persons consists too largely of protein, specially meat, such a diet tending to rheumatism, disease of the kidneys, and innumerable other ills.

When the meat used includes shell-fish, as lobsters, crabs, and oysters, or the equally objectionable swine, still another element of danger is added.

Wholesome habits of life bring abundant reward in freedom from depression and pain, in vigor and endurance.

ADELAIDE D. WELLMAN.

### The Last Truce

UNENLIGHTENED by Bible prophecy, the people of earth have persisted in declaring that the nations had become too civilized ever to use the mighty implements of war frantically constructed in the past several years. These false assurances were foretold in Isa. 2:3 and other scriptures. The present terrible conflict has therefore taken the untrue prophets by surprise, and again confirmed the word of God.

The awful war drama of the day has caused many trembling hearts to ask whether there will be peace again on earth. Now, it is evident from the description of the last battle, in Rev. 16:14, 16, that to-day's war is not the final battle. The last battle is fought during the sixth plague, in the "great day of God," after the close of the day of salvation. The plagues have not yet begun to fall, and, praise the Lord, salvation still lingers!

We get a definite clue to the situation by carefully examining Rev. 7:1-3: "And after these things I saw four angels standing on the four corners of the earth, holding the four winds of the earth [war and strife from every point of the compass], that the wind should not blow on the earth, nor on the sea, nor on any tree. And I saw another angel ascending from the east, having the seal of the living God: and he cried with a loud voice to the four angels, to whom it was given to hurt the earth and the sea, saying, *Hurt not* the earth, neither the sea, nor the trees, till we have sealed the servants of our God in their foreheads [the seat of intellect, the mind]."

An analysis of the above three verses results in the following conclusions:

The winds of war were *held*.

It was given to *hurt* the earth.

A *truce* was called.

It seems clear, from the above, that we have passed the time of the restraining providence which held in check the passions of men.

We are plunged into the period designated as *hurting* the earth. This is certainly accomplished in Europe to-day.

In answer to the cry that God's servants have not yet been reached and sealed for the kingdom, the great war must be halted, and a truce established.

This truce occupies a short period of great intensity, and the sole purpose of such a moment in God's providence is the finishing of the gospel message to the world.

From the statement that this truce lasts "till" the servants of God are sealed, it follows that the last sounds of this pleading, warning message will usher in the final time of war, in which there will be no truce, and which culminates in the dreaded Armageddon on Turkish territory in Palestine.

It is time for us to seek a hiding-place from the storm. "I will say of the Lord, He is my refuge and my fortress: my God; in Him will I trust." Ps. 91:2.

EUGENE A. BROWN.

### In Whose Hands Are the Keys?

GREAT stress is laid by some upon what they count as a fact, that the keys to the kingdom of heaven are in the human hand of Saint Peter. There is no word of Scripture confirming this, which, were it true, would be the greatest calamity that could befall a sinful race.

Ah, no! the keys are in another hand, the hand of the mighty Son of God, human, to be sure, but infinitely more, being also divine. Jesus says, "I am the door." "No man cometh unto the Father, but by Me." "Fear not; I am the first and the last, and the Living One; and I was dead, and behold, I am alive forevermore, and I have the keys."

Not only is Jesus the door, but the keys are in His hand. The Son of God knows the innermost motives of the soul. He is the One who searches the reins and the heart, and makes no mistake—being the Sinless One. He holds the keys to the tomb, and His bruised hand holds also the keys to the gates of Paradise. And no one enters there until His hand swings back the gates of pearl upon their glittering hinges. For this let us ever thank God.

T. E. BOWEN.

### Humbugs

MANY substances advertised as pure, genuine, unadulterated, and some even under the "pure food law," belong to the spurious category. They should come under the head of frands, fakes, humbugs, and quackery. Beware of them.

No expense is spared in contriving large and showy advertisements of "sure cures" for every ailment. Some advertisers resort to one method, and some to another.

Hundreds of testimonials are easily drawn up, by persons employed for that purpose, declaring marvelous cures effected by these so-called remedies; and by such testimonials, many persons are deceived.

Some forty-eight years ago, I passed through an experience of this kind, which taught me a lesson never to be forgotten. Several testimonials were given me by charlatans, and I spent half a day searching for four or five of the writers. Not one of them ever lived at the places designated.

MRS. H. E. SAWYER-HOPKINS.

A PLEA is made for funds to help the impecunious sailors stranded in San Francisco on account of the war. The money expended in one day in that city for drink and lust would keep these stranded sailors for a year, and the men who lost the drink and lust indulgence would be infinitely better off without them.

w.



## A WORD TO OUR READERS

We send no papers from this office to individuals without pay in advance. When persons receive copies without ordering them, they are sent by other parties, and we can give no information in regard to them. Persons thus receiving copies of the SIGNS are not indebted to the office, and will not be called upon to pay for them. Please read the papers you may receive, and hand them to your friends to read.

### DATE OF EXPIRATION

The SIGNS wrapper bears date of last issue due on your subscription. Unless renewed in advance, paper stops with expiration date.

If herewith is an order-blank, you will know you have overlooked sending renewal. You will not wish to miss a single issue. Back numbers often can not be furnished.

### SCRIPTURE QUOTATIONS

Our authority for the doctrines we teach is the Bible. Quotations are usually from the King James Version or the American Standard Revised.

# Signs of the Times

Published weekly by the Pacific Press Publishing Association, a corporation of the Seventh-day Adventist denomination.

(Entered Sept. 15, 1904, as second-class matter at the Mountain View, Cal., post-office, under Act of Congress of March 3, 1879.)

A. O. TAIT, EDITOR

L. A. REED, ASSOCIATE

### EDITORIAL CONTRIBUTORS

A. G. DANIELLS  
M. C. WILCOX  
I. H. EVANS

W. A. SPICER  
G. B. THOMPSON  
E. E. ANDROSS  
H. R. SALISBURY

W. T. KNOX  
R. C. PORTER  
J. O. CORLISS

Manuscripts should be addressed to the editor. Address all business and make all money-orders, etc., payable to the SIGNS OF THE TIMES, Mountain View, California.

## SUBSCRIPTION RATES

Three months .....\$0.50  
Six months ..... .90  
One year (50 numbers) ..... 1.75

With "Questions and Answers" ..... 2.00  
With Bible Atlas (maps only) ..... 2.25  
With Bible Atlas (maps and text) ..... 2.50  
With Bible Dictionary ..... 2.50

1. One new yearly subscription and one renewal, or two new, sent at one time, \$3.00.  
2. Two new yearly subscriptions and one renewal, or three new, sent at one time, \$4.00.  
3. Three new yearly subscriptions and one renewal, or four new, sent at one time, \$5.00.  
Five or more copies to one person, six months, each \$0.60.  
Five or more copies to separate addresses, six months, each \$0.65.

Weekly and Monthly SIGNS one year, \$2.25.

G. C. HOSKIN, Circulation Manager.

## PREDICTED RELIGIOUS DESPOTISM

Is Twentieth Century Civilization to See It?—Numerically Strong Religious Combines Are Dangerous—The Principles Involved in Sunday Laws



ONE of the measures to be voted on at the election in California this fall is a one-day-of-rest-in-seven law. Regular weekly rest days, without any question, have their basis in religion, and one of the principal factors in the history of this world has been religious despotisms.

But the people of this age have been assuring us that history will not repeat itself in this thing, for our civilization, we are told, has advanced beyond the point of permitting it. But we have also been assured that our civilization has reached the place where we would have no more wars; yet the great war of this present year, 1914, in the Old World, with its inhuman, barbarous butcheries, ought to be sufficient to dispel that delusion. And it ought to lead us to an intelligent realization of the fact that we can not depend upon mere civilization to prevent anything. Hence our civilization may not be a sufficient bulwark against any future religious despotism.

### THE MOST CRUEL AND TYRANNICAL

Of all the despotisms that may curse humanity, religious despotisms have ever been the worst, the most cruel, and the most tyrannical. In fact, some form of religion—either idolatrous heathenism or else perverted Bible religion—has been the foundation of the tyrannies and the cruelties that have cursed and tortured humanity.

Looking about us to-day, are there any indications that history might repeat itself by giving us a twentieth century religious autocracy? The world is full of moral, political, and social problems that are staggering the best of men as they seek to cope with them. The sentiment is growing stronger every day that the only power that can meet the situation, that can give us peace among the nations, that can still the strife between capital and labor, that can deal with the political bosses who are corrupting cities and states and nation, that can cope with the white slave traffic—in a word, the only power that can successfully handle all the problems that are confronting us—is the power of the combined church. Hence well-meaning men in every nation of the world are seeking for a combination that will concentrate the great influence of the church, both Protestant and Catholic, upon evils that are threatening our civilization and existence.

### BASED ON MERE FORCE OF NUMBERS

But while these men have high hopes for their success, yet these hopes are based upon the mere force of their numbers. Their plans are of a political order rather than the gospel plan of depending upon the Spirit and power of God regardless of numbers. "Not by might, nor by power, but by My Spirit, saith the Lord of hosts." Zech. 4:6.

### ALWAYS RESULT IN TYRANNY

Such church combines in all the history of the world have invariably resulted in tyrannies. It matters not whether these combines have been in the form of the polytheism that threw the Hebrew children into the fiery furnace, or in the form of the Jewish religion that crucified the Christ Himself, or in the form of the avowed followers of the Crucified One who have cruelly put millions of people to death in His name.

In passing upon the question of Sunday mails in 1829, our

United States Senate, among many other important things, had the following to say:

"Extensive religious combinations to effect a political object are, in the opinion of the committee, always dangerous. . . . If admitted, it may be justly apprehended that the future measures of the government will be strongly marked, if not eventually controlled, by the same influence. All religious despotism commences by combination and influence; and when that influence begins to operate upon the political institutions of a country, the civil power soon bends under it; and the catastrophe of other nations furnishes an awful warning of the consequence."

Lord Macaulay said:

"The experience of many ages proves that men may be ready to fight to the death, and to persecute without pity, for a religion whose creed they do not understand, and whose precepts they habitually disobey."

### ONE OF THE MOST GRAPHIC PROPHECIES

One of the most graphic prophecies in the Bible, without question, foreshadows a religious despotism that will yet arise and be world dominant. That prophecy reads:

"And I beheld another beast coming up out of the earth; and he had two horns like a lamb, and he spake as a dragon. And he exerciseth all the power of the first beast before him, and causeth the earth and them which dwell therein to worship the first beast, whose deadly wound was healed. And he doeth great wonders, so that he maketh fire come down from heaven on the earth in the sight of men, and deceiveth them that dwell on the earth by the means of those miracles which he had power to do in the sight of the beast; saying to them that dwell on the earth, that they should make an image to the beast, which had the wound by a sword, and did live. And he had power to give life unto the image of the beast, that the image of the beast should both speak, and cause that as many as would not worship the image of the beast should be killed. And he causeth all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a mark in their right hand, or in their foreheads: and that no man might buy or sell, save he that had the mark, or the name of the beast, or the number of his name." Rev. 13:11-17.

### INVARIABLY A RELIGIOUS DESPOTISM

The symbolic beast power spoken of in such prophecies as this, invariably refers to religious despotisms. Sometimes it is the despotism of a heathen religion; sometimes it is the despotism of the professed but apostate followers of the God of the Bible. Observe that this beast power that is to arise, and which forms an image to the preceding beast spoken of in the first part of this thirteenth chapter of Revelation, demands worship, and enforces its worship by miracles. That this is a religious power goes without question, for outside of religion men mock at the idea of miracles. This power demands worship else it will inflict the death penalty. This is an invariable characteristic of religious tyrannies.

This power appeals to the people by "saying to them that dwell on the earth, that they should make an image to the beast, which had the wound by a sword, and did live." This shows that it will be a popular movement, and that the great masses, through influential leadership, will be called to decide upon the question.

There will also be power actually to give life to the beast mentioned in the first part of the chapter, and it will have the power granted to it to demand worship. In civil society such power resides in the state itself. This shows that this ecclesiastical despotism will actually get control of the state.



## MAKES USE OF THE BOYCOTT

Furthermore, it uses the boycott in its method, because it utters the decree that no man might buy or sell unless he would receive the mark and authority of this man-made church organization.

These times in which we live are characterized most strongly by the development of that sentiment known as the boycott, which will destroy a man's business, his trade, or whatever may be his occupation, unless he subscribes to the ideas and views of those who are in authority. The boycott is not confined by any manner of means to labor organizations, although in the main they get the blame for it. The men of wealth operate the boycott in principle, and the laboring men have learned it from them. And the church herself is even taking it up in some of her lines of work.

## ALIVE AT THE CLOSE OF TIME

That the great power of which this prophecy speaks is a living, active agency at the close of time is certain, for we read:

"And the beast was taken, and with him the false prophet that wrought miracles before him, with which he deceived them that had received the mark of the beast, and them that worshiped his image. These both were cast alive into a lake of fire burning with brimstone." Rev. 19:20.

This verse unmistakably refers to the power under considera-

There can be no objection to any man's observing Sunday or any other day that he may choose; but when it comes to enforcing the day by a state law, the state is asked by the church to take sides in a religious controversy, and to enforce a day that is essentially a church affair.

It is well for the men of this time to remember that the great religious despotism of the Dark Ages was prefaced by the universal Sunday law of Constantine. And is not history struggling to repeat itself through a religious despotism that is now coming to the forefront in its vigorous efforts to compel every individual to keep Sunday? The prophetic utterances quoted in these paragraphs concerning a religious despotism that is to be formed, are from the infallible words of Jehovah. It is well for each individual to study carefully what God has so definitely said.

## THEY ARE RELIGIOUS BLUE LAWS

Recent Occurrences of Intolerance in the United States—Do We Want Laws That Make Such Things Possible?

THERE has come to hand a pamphlet from the secretary of state, containing a list of the forty-eight amendments and statutes to be voted upon in the coming November election in



Photograph of men working in the chain-gang in our free and liberty-loving America. Some are Seventh-day Adventists, and their only crime was that of working on Sunday after they had conscientiously kept Saturday, the seventh-day Sabbath of the Bible. Nos. 1-7 are Sabbath-keeping Christians; 8, teamster; 9-11, common criminals; 12, guard with gun.

tion, as noted in the thirteenth chapter, and shows that it will be on the stage of action, living and active, when Christ comes, and that it is thereby destroyed.

## A FEARFUL WARNING

Against this power of apostasy and despotism that will seek to coerce the consciences of men, there is the following warning:

"And the third angel followed them, saying with a loud voice, If any man worship the beast and his image, and receive his mark in his forehead, or in his hand, the same shall drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out without mixture into the cup of His indignation; and he shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels, and in the presence of the Lamb: and the smoke of their torment ascendeth up forever and ever: and they have no rest day nor night, who worship the beast and his image, and whosoever receiveth the mark of his name. Here is the patience of the saints: here are they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus." Rev. 14:9-12.

One of the planks that is put in the forefront by all these federated bodies of Christian workers, is that we must have a universal Sunday law. They tell us that our civilization depends upon it; that in overthrowing the evils of the time, it is essential that we have a law in favor of Sunday, not only that men may have time to worship, but that the laboring man may have rest with his family at home.

California. On page 84 appear the arguments pro and con regarding the proposed law demanding one day of rest in seven. In the affirmative argument (?) is found this statement about Sunday laws throughout the United States: "No one has been so bold as to claim that in so doing [making these laws] religious or blue laws are being forced upon the people."

## IMPRISONED FOR THEIR RELIGION

Had the author of that statement been well informed, he would not have made it. Let him read of the persecutions in Eastern and Southern states for Sunday labor during the last twenty-five years, and he will learn that within that time no less than seventy-six Seventh-day Adventists were made to suffer imprisonment, or serve terms in the chain-gang. Such usage was endured in Tennessee, Maryland, Arkansas, and also in Canada. The names of most of these sufferers, as well as their terms of imprisonment, can be readily furnished.

But it may be asked, Was it understood that such prosecutions were for the violation of religious statutes? Let court statements during some of these trials answer the query. In the trial of three men in Paris, Tennessee, the sheriff remarked, as he turned over his prisoners to the court, that they all seemed very conscientious in their course. To this the judge replied, "Let them educate their consciences by the laws of Tennessee."



## SINGLED OUT THE ONE MAN

Again, in the case of the state versus King, another prosecution for working on Sunday was before the Supreme Court of Tennessee in 1890. This trial was incited by a vigilance committee of church-members, all sworn to uphold Sunday observance, in opposition to the observance of another day of rest. Any others in that region, except seventh day observers, hunted and fished on Sunday as they chose, and in many instances did common labor on that day without fear of molestation.

In the prosecution of Mr. King, the attorney-general said, among other things, regarding interference with rights of conscience, as introduced by the defendant's attorney: "No, sir; away with all such foolishness, and everything of the sort! I do not care anything about the Adventists, whether they are right or not. When they come here they must walk up to the rack, and eat the same fodder that our folks eat."

## THE LANGUAGE OF INTOLERANCE

Such language tastes strongly enough of religious persecution; and Mr. King was persecuted to his death, over this one point of *Sunday* labor. It was the only offense.

This makes an act which is perfectly legitimate on six days of the week, indictably wrong when performed on Sunday. It is therefore not *the deed* done that constitutes the affront, but *the day* on which it is done. Why, then, single out a certain day on which an act performed is accounted wrong, when the same deed may be done with impunity on every other day of the week? It can be for no other reason than that Sunday is considered sacred time, and the law is demanded to continue it so.

This fastens the conviction that all prosecution for Sunday labor is for religious reasons; and no one can well deny this, because all Sunday legislation, and all prosecutions for Sunday labor, in the history of this nation, have grown from religious regard for Sunday as a day of rest. Come, then, and let us be reasonable in our course of conduct, and allow others the same right of choice we claim for ourselves.

J. O. C.

## WANTED — 600,000 MEN

IN a "War Extra" of September 4, this item was found: "War Secretary Kitchener wants 600,000 men before the middle of the coming week." This additional call for England's young men to follow the many thousands already sent to the carnage fields of Europe, was a startling summons, which brought forth expressions of surprise on the part of some, and of ominous fore-

bodings of others. A small number, however, saw in it an omen of prophetic latter-day fulfilment. The following verses by Edwin Kingsley Hurlbut, which appeared in the Los Angeles *Tribune* for September 13, set forth the awful condition calling for this great national sacrifice, and then, as though comprehending something of inspired prophecy relating to this time, ask the great question about Armageddon's era, which so many are now studying. Here are the interesting lines which so vividly portray the dire situation:

"Wanted, six hundred thousand more  
Of Britain's best and bravest sons,  
O'er fields of France their blood to pour,  
And feed their flesh to German guns.  
Ten thousand now are lying slain  
Of those they sent but yesterday,  
And thousands more on beds of pain  
With shattered limbs their tribute pay.

"Ten thousand rush to fill the breach  
Where Death's hand reaps the human grain,  
And farther than the eye can reach  
Fresh victims surge across the plain.  
Into this gorge of fire and blood  
Vast armies pour their battle tide  
In vain attempt to stem the flood  
And save from stain each nation's pride.

"'Wanted.' Who wants them and for what?  
'Lord Kitchener calls them for King George!'  
And forth they swarm, from peasant hut,  
From city mart and mine and forge;  
From Scotland's heathered hills and vales,  
Killarney's lakes and Shannon's banks,  
With dauntless sons and sires of Wales—  
Onward they press to fill the ranks.

"The columns march, the ships are manned,  
For England's honor, pride, and name.  
Midst ringing cheers they leave the strand,  
Some doomed to death, some marked for fame.  
But who shall ease the orphan's pain  
And heal the widow's broken heart,  
And till the fields and sow the grain,  
When crimson war has played its part?

"And where is God? Each nation prays  
To Him for victory in the fight.  
And where is Christ, whom war betrays,  
Quenching with blood each beacon light?  
Is this the 'Armageddon' doom  
In Revelation's book foretold?  
Soon, bursting through war's lurid gloom,  
Will earth her Saviour's form behold."

J. O. C.

## Question Corner

Conducted by MILTON C. WILCOX  
Professor of Biblical Exegesis of the Faculty of the College of Medical Evangelists  
Loma Linda, California

**NOTE.**—This department is for the purpose of helping Bible students. Answers must of necessity be brief, often only suggestive, never exhaustive, never infallible only as they agree with the infallible Word. Such questions only will be answered as seem to the editors to minister to the mission of the paper. Questions of the same import can not be answered repeatedly in the same volume. Name and address must be given, not for publication, but as evidence of good faith and to insure reply by letter if thought best. It is well always to enclose stamp, not stamped envelope, unless answer is desired by letter alone.

## 26—GOD IS SPIRIT

It seems to me that the spiritual body may be and is visible to the mortal eye, and that spiritual beings can carry on conversation with mortals in their own mortal familiar language. See Luke 24:39; John 4:24. The Saviour ate fish and honeycomb after His resurrection, and I understand He was a spiritual being.

R. P. D.

There is a difference in the meaning of the various uses of the term "spirit." Sometimes it means simply the life, the life God-given; sometimes it means a spiritual being. In such a way it is used in John 4:24, "God is a spirit," or, as the margin of the Revised Version reads, "God is spirit."

These spiritual beings seem to have the power to make themselves visible or invisible to humanity. Angels of God are around His children on every occasion. "The angel of the Lord encampeth round about them that fear Him, and delivereth them." Ps. 34:7. Sometimes these angels have been made visible. Generally they are not. Sometimes they appear as men. Our Lord, as a spiritual

being, walked with the disciples on their way to Emmaus, ate with them at the table, and then vanished from their sight. He returned an invisible being with them to Jerusalem, although they did not know that He was present. But shortly after they had met with the disciples at Jerusalem, He again appeared to them, and said to them, "Handle Me, and see; for a spirit hath not flesh and bones, as ye see Me have." The evident thought implied in Luke 24:39 is that the disciples themselves thought Jesus was a ghost.

It is preeminently true of fishermen that they are superstitious; so they thought it was a ghost they saw when Jesus walked on the sea. His purpose in eating before them was to show that He was not a mere phantom; He was a real being with substance—flesh and bones. He showed them His hands and His feet that had the marks of the nails.

In fact, spiritual beings are more real beings than these mortal beings. They are composed of finer material, but it is not the less substantial material. "The first man Adam became a living soul. The last Adam became a life-giving spirit." 1 Cor. 15:45. And so, according to the previous verse, there is the natural body and there is also

a spiritual body. Flesh and blood, mortal man, corruptible man, shall not inherit the kingdom of God; but the purified spiritual beings shall enter it.

## 27—THE LORD'S ANSWER TO THE THIEF

Did the Lord grant the request of the thief the same day that it was made?  
Luke 23:43.

C. M. D.

The request of the thief was this: "Lord, remember me when Thou comest into Thy kingdom." One of the common subjects in our Lord's preaching was the kingdom and the setting up of that kingdom. He taught the prayer, "Thy kingdom come." In the parable of the pounds, as recorded in Luke 19, the kingdom of God is likened to a man that called his servants to him and divided among them money, and on his return called them to account. He himself went away for a time. When he comes again, he will receive his kingdom. See Luke 19:11-13. Jesus is the nobleman that went into a far country to receive to himself a kingdom and to return.

Matt. 25:31 teaches the same truth,—that the



kingdom will be set up, or that Christ will sit on the throne of His glory, when He comes the second time; and verse 34 of the same chapter shows that His own children will not inherit the kingdom until the Judgment is over. That kingdom is this earth, for it is the kingdom that is "prepared for you from the foundation of the world." The same thing is taught in Dan. 7: 27. "And the kingdom and the dominion, and the greatness of the kingdoms under the whole heaven, shall be given to the people of the saints of the Most High: His kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and all dominions shall serve and obey Him."

Once more in Rev. 11: 15 we read: "And the seventh angel sounded; and there followed great voices in heaven, and they said, The kingdom of the world is become the kingdom of our Lord, and of His Christ: and He shall reign forever and ever."

What was the request of the thief?—"Lord, remember me when Thou comest into Thy kingdom." It could not be fulfilled that day, could it? That would be utterly impossible, for Christ did not then enter His kingdom. He had not even ascended to the Father; for the third day after this, He said to Mary, who was about to clasp His feet in her ardent worship of the Master, "Touch Me not; for I am not yet ascended unto the Father." John 20: 17. The Father dwells in Paradise. 2 Cor. 12: 2, 4. In Paradise is the tree of life. Rev. 2: 7. And the tree of life is near the throne of God. Rev. 22: 2. That Paradise, and that tree of life, and that city in which these are, will descend out of heaven, and the city will become the capital of the new earth. Rev. 21: 1, 2. Then it is that Christ will fully enter into His kingdom, and then it is that the request of the thief will be fulfilled.

Jesus answered him that day, but the answer will not be met until our Lord enters His kingdom in the New Jerusalem. Therefore His words, "Verily I say unto thee to-day, Shalt thou be with Me in Paradise," or to put it in the way we usually would, "Thou shalt be with Me in Paradise." This is simply a different form of putting a declaration. It is common in Old English. See, for instance, Rev. 2: 7, "Will I give," equivalent to "I will give"; also verse 26, "Will I give authority," equivalent to "I will give authority," even as it reads in verse 28, "I will give him the morning star."

What then was the import of the words of Jesus?—Simply this,—that in the darkest hour of Christ's sojourn here upon the earth, when He was dying as a malefactor upon the cross, the thief's faith pierced the darkness, and embraced Him as the Son of God, who would come according to His promises, and save His people. He doubtless had been among the throngs that had heard Christ preach. He wanted a part in that future kingdom of which the perfect character dying at his side should be the King. And as the thief had faith in that dark hour, to express his belief, so Jesus had the assurance to answer, "I say unto thee to-day, Shalt thou be with Me in Paradise."

"To-day" is an adverbial phrase which might modify the verb "say" or the verb "shalt be." The whole tenor of Scripture demands that the adverb "to-day" shall modify "say." "Verily I say to-day unto thee, Thou shalt be with Me in Paradise"; that is, when He comes to set up His kingdom.

28—DEATH OF HEROD THE GREAT

At what time did Herod the Great die?  
I would like to know from the Bible or history, or both. C. M. D.

We have no record in the Bible as to when Herod the Great died. We must not confound Herod the Great with other Herods that followed. Herod really was the family name, and the Herodian family included not only Herod the Great, but Archelaus, Herod Antipas, Philip, Herod Agrippa I, and Herod Agrippa II.

Herod the Great was placed in power by Rome. His whole career was one of cruelty and bloodshed. His father died by poison, and he assassinated the poisoner. His equally wicked or more wicked sister, Salome, urged him to crime. He gave orders that his own wife Mariamne, the Asmonean, should be put to death if he did not return when he went to meet Mark Antony. Two men, learning of this secret, were both executed. One of his wives he murdered, another he cast aside. Mariamne learned of his order concerning her, and hated him intensely as a result. Not daring to dispose of her secretly, he charged her with adultery, and she was executed. Two of Herod's sons,

becoming too popular after they had been educated in Rome, were charged with treason, which resulted in their death. Augustus left the sentence of his last son to Herod. The son was put to death. His son Antipater was put to death five days before the father died, upon which it is said that the Roman emperor remarked, "I had rather be Herod's sow than Herod's son." He died at the age of sixty-nine, a few days before the Passover, B. C. 4. His death scene, it is reported, was awful as regards both his mind and his body. See any good Bible encyclopedia.

29—THE DATE OF THE DELUGE

Will you kindly inform me why the date of the Flood in the Bible is 2348 B. C., and historical works credit the Babylonian and Egyptian dynasties with passing on down beyond that date, without any reference to the Flood, claiming that the dates were obtained from unearthen tablets?

J. H. P.

A more exact date for the Deluge would not be a date B. C., but a date A. M. (Anno Mundi). That would be 1656 A. M., that is, the year of the world. According to Archbishop Usher's chronology, that was 2348 years before Christ. The Septuagint gives a number of years more than this. There is a general agreement, however, concerning the first 1656 years. This can be learned from the age of the patriarchs from Adam to Noah.

The dates gleaned from the tablets by archeologists are very uncertain. Some of the most learned archeologists declare that there is nothing as yet found that would in any wise upset the general Bible chronology, that is, that would carry civilization back farther than the Bible carries it. Some of these things that are found may have antedated the Deluge. We do not know anything that would forbid this. It is safe to say that we can hold in a general way to the commonly received Biblical chronology. The dates of the archeologists yet are too uncertain to be depended upon.

30—JACOB AND ESAU

I can not understand why God should love Jacob better than Esau, for Jacob and his mother were deceitful, and told a lie. Why should God bless him more than Esau?

J. W. W.

We do not know how many lies Esau told. The Lord does not tell us that. Somehow or other, He has told us about all the sins that His people committed which hindered. It has been Satan's special object to get God's people to commit sin. This has ever been true; and so the devil must have planned preeminently to destroy Jacob, the one through whom the promised Seed should come.

But it is worth while to know that in the great choice which the two brothers made—an eternal choice, a choice involving eternal character—unconverted though Jacob was, he stood for God's plan. The birthright was everything. Esau was willing to sell it for a mess of pottage. Jacob longed for it above everything else, and being unconverted, he was willing to use any worldly means he could to secure it. We find, however, his humble and heartfelt repentance following. As he returns from Syria and meets Esau, he could tell the Lord that he was unworthy of the least of all His mercies. In his wrestling with the angel at the ford Jabbok, the heart of Jacob is emptied and yielded to God forever; and as a result, we find the change of his name, indicative of the change of character. No longer should his name be called Jacob, the supplanter, but Israel, the prevailer with God. See Gen. 32: 22-30.

It is character, then, to which God refers in saying, "Jacob have I loved, but Esau have I hated." The passage is found in Mal. 1: 2, 3. But you can readily see, by reading the context, that it is not Jacob as an individual, but Jacob as a people, and Esau as a people. The reason why God loved the one was because the one sought Him and followed Him. The other not only turned away from God, but turned their hands against every man.

Neither does it mean, by "hate," that God cherished evil feelings against Esau. It is the Lord's own prophet, Isaiah, through whom He pleads, "Look unto Me, and be ye saved, all the ends of the earth." And Esau is included among those whom the Lord would save.

It is well for us to remember that these persons

who stand out in the Old Testament are frequently taken for types of character, as for instance, Cain and Abel, Esau and Jacob, Ishmael and Isaac, Jezebel and Elijah. To remember this will help us to understand some of the references made to them in later scriptures.


31—FACTS REGARDING THE BIBLE

Will you please state if you consider the whole Bible written by inspiration? Some of our teachers say that only part of it is inspired. S. C. H.

We have no reason to regard any part of the Bible as more inspired than any other parts. Concerning the Old Testament Scriptures, the Scriptures which were in existence in the days of the apostle Paul—for the New Testament was not written then—we read, "All Scripture is given by inspiration of God,"—literally, "God-breathed." 2 Tim. 3: 16. We do not understand by this, however, that the translation is inspired, but the original Scriptures are inspired. The translation is simply turning the Scriptures into another language. There are many other expressions which indicate the same thing. In Acts 1: 16, for instance, in referring to the Psalms, Luke does not say that they were David's words, but, "The Holy Spirit spake before by the mouth of David." The same thought is expressed in Heb. 3: 7. Peter tells us that "holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost." 2 Peter 1: 21. The apostle Paul says of his own writings, "Which things also we speak, not in words which man's wisdom teacheth, but which the Spirit teacheth." 1 Cor. 2: 13.

In many instances inspiration records the words of others; and many times the words of others recorded in the Scriptures are not inspiration. For instance, we read in Genesis 3 that Satan said so and so. Satan's words were not God-breathed, but the record that tells us about them is. So in the case of some of Job's friends. They said many good things. They made wrong application of the good things. Their words were not necessarily inspired, but the record which gives their words is inspired.

If we were to judge as to what is inspired and what is not inspired, in a little while all the word of God would be set aside. Whatever did not agree with us, or with our judgment, or with our tastes, or with our desires, would be set aside as not of inspiration. Others would reject other parts, until nothing would be left of the Bible but the covers. Better it is, it seems to us, to regard the Word even as our Lord Jesus Christ did. He ever spoke of it reverently. He never questioned. He quoted from Isaiah and Jeremiah, from the Psalms, from Moses, but He always regarded it as the word of God.



SYSTEMATIC  
BIBLE STUDY

AS a mental stimulus in divine things, the proverbs of Solomon, that we will be reading for the next few weeks, are superexcellent. They are made up of divine wisdom, presented in such terse sentences that the student is entertained, and at the same time mentally energized and spiritually built up. In the chapters for this week, personified Wisdom tells us of her wonderful powers. And this personification of wisdom really represents Christ Himself, who, as we have already found in Isa. 9: 6, was to be called Wonderful, Counselor, the mighty God, the everlasting Father, the Prince of peace. In 1 Cor. 1: 30, a similar thought is expressed: "Christ Jesus, who of God is made unto us wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption." And in the twenty-fourth verse of the same chapter, we read, "Christ the power of God, and the wisdom of God." In Him "are hid all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge." Col. 2: 3. The individual who is connected with Christ, is connected with the fountainhead of all wisdom.

SCHEDULE FOR THE WEEK ENDING OCTOBER 10

2 Kings 4-11  
Ezekiel 4-10  
Proverbs 5-12

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



# Marvelous Providences in Mission Fields

The On-Moving Forces Can Not Be Stopped — Prophecies of Men and Movements That Fulfill God's Plans — Strong Prediction of a Great World-Wide Warning Message

By ROSS C. PORTER

Superintendent of the Asiatic Division of Our Mission Work

**M**ISSION life is not a romance, but there are numerous experiences in frontier mission fields that are more interesting than are fables. Real life in missions is so varied as to require the most resourceful plans to meet conditions.

## TO BE CARRIED BY PERSONAL TOUCH

Infinite wisdom ordained the plan of carrying the gospel to a lost world through the personal touch of man with his fallen brother. In frontier fields where cannibals await their prey, or in interior places where fear of invasion, or desire for piracy or plunder, has made the way exceedingly dangerous, the missionary, inspired by the spirit of his great commission, has gone, expecting to succeed or die in the service of his Master.

Mission work has developed the greatest heroes of history. It led apostles to face prisons, beatings, scourgings, and perils of every kind, in their endeavor to carry the gospel message to a world in darkness. It led Luther to face the fury of Rome at Spire and Worms, and his associate reformers and their followers to face the fagots, the stake, and the Inquisition.

## REMAINS OF INQUISITION VICTIMS

When, in 1868, roads were laid out through the elevated piece of ground north of Madrid, "known as the *Quemadero*, or burning place, of the Inquisition, exposing to view the long buried remains of its victims, the sight of bones, singed hair, charred wood, and rusty chains" reminded the world of the heroic labors of missionaries who could not be swerved from their mission by bribes, nor driven from it by fear of torture or death. Such are the noblest examples of heroism the history of the world has ever recorded.

The early African missionaries were really

the pioneer explorers and settlers of the country. Hostile natives and wild animals combined to check their advance, but they pressed boldly forward. Famine, pestilence, fever, and plague were met and passed, on their triumphant march through the interior. Their march was inspired by prayer rather than by martial music. Lions were overpowered and slain by men more used to the pen than to the sword; and when David Livingstone, the great leader of mission advance, finally succumbed to the dread African fever, he was found cold and stiff in the embrace of death, in the attitude of prayer.

Why did God suffer this godly man to fall at his post on this pioneer journey? It was not because He was not able to rebuke the fever. He who sees the end from the beginning had a wise design in permitting this check in mission advance for a time. The news of the death of Livingstone, and his attempted rescue by Stanley, turned the eyes of Christendom toward the condition and the needs of dark Africa. It was the occasion of such a mission awakening as has seldom been witnessed since apostolic days.

## ONLY A SEEMING DEFEAT

This seeming defeat was, under divine Providence, made a marvelous mission awakening. It was God's call to a slumbering church to arise and make a fearless advance into the wilds of Africa. The call was timely. The response was remarkable. Soon the trail of Livingstone was ablaze with gospel light. Other portions were explored and entered, until from every part of that dark continent, where men were found in the superstition accompanying heathenism, the voice of prayer and praise now ascends to the throne of God.

When in 1894 we began our mission operations near Bulawayo, 1,500 miles interior from Cape Town, it was necessary to travel 700 miles by ox-teams from Vyburg, which was then the terminus of the railway. The government was then under British supervision.

## THE CRUELTY OF NATIVE KINGS

For thirty years prior to this date Moselikatze, king of the Matabele, and Lobengula, his successor, had forbidden their people to attend mission schools or church services. When a girl or a boy was reported to be interested in mission teaching, the king called the offender to his place, and he disappeared, and nothing more was ever heard of him. In 1893 the war between the Matabele and Great Britain opened the country for mission operations, under British rule.

## REMARKABLE PROPHECY OF CYRUS

Such extraordinary transformations as were accomplished in this instance remind one of God's remarkable providences in the case of Cyrus, king of the Medes and Persians. God planned his mission nearly two centuries before his birth. Isa. 44:24-28; 45:1-13. He was to overthrow the city and kingdom of Babylon, in order to liberate the people of Israel from oppression, restore their city, their temple, its services, and their dominion.

His grandfather endeavored to kill Cyrus when he was but a child. He supposed that he had accomplished this through a command given his most trusted servant. Years passed before he learned that by a special providence, the child of an old mountain shepherd had died the very day the trusted servant had passed the child over to him in his mountain retreat, to be slain by his hand. The mother exchanged the clothing of the two children, and passed her dead child on for burial in the clothing of the infant Cyrus. Thus the child Cyrus was preserved by as remarkable a providence, when it had been decreed by the king Astyages that he should be slain, as was the child Jesus when Herod had decreed His death.



Chinese believers in the great message of the soon coming of Christ, assembled in our new chapel at Chang-Sha, China. These are representatives of the fruits of the labors of our faithful missionaries in that field during very recent years. Elder R. C. Porter, who writes the article on this page, is now in charge of that portion of the Asiatic Division which includes China.



## HELD HIS RIGHT HAND

Not only had the Lord declared the mission of Cyrus, but He declared that He would hold his right hand, to subdue nations before him; and when he entered upon his kingly mission, he emphatically proclaimed, "Thus saith Cyrus king of Persia, All the kingdoms of the earth hath the Lord God of heaven given me; and He hath charged me to build Him an house in Jerusalem, which is in Judah." 2 Chron. 36:23.

The Lord had not only held his right hand, to subdue nations before him, but He was watching over His word of announcement made through the prophet Jeremiah. He would see that at the right time, that word was fulfilled. Verse 22.

With God there are no perplexities that baffle His plans. When He takes a man or a movement in hand by which to accomplish a work in the earth, makes a proclamation concerning its mission, and outlines its results, though the combined powers of evil men and devils conspire to defeat that movement, it goes triumphantly forward to success. There is no failure with God.

## PREDICTION OF DEFINITE MOVEMENT

God has spoken definitely of the success of a last-day movement to carry the last warning message of the gospel commission "to every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people." He has declared its standard to be, "The patience of the saints," "The commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus." Rev. 14:9-12. In verse 14 He announces that the proclamation ends with the second advent of Christ, and the movement triumphant.

Can that movement fail? The same God who watched the prophetic Word which had declared the movement under Cyrus, is, from His throne, still watching this final prediction of His prophet; and as He held the right hand of His servant then, to subdue nations before him in the fulfilment of his commission, so He is holding the hands of His servants who go forth to give this message.

If nations can stop the falling snow and rain, the ebb and flow of the tide, the seasons appearing in their order, the tornado, the earthquake, and the vivid lightning flashes, then may they stop the onward march of this last-day message.

The world is the parish for this movement. To the whole world God has decreed it shall go, and to the world it will go. If need be, He will subdue nations before its onward march, as in the days of Cyrus. Happy is that people who discern God's movements, and consecrate themselves for service under His divine commission.

## BOOK NOTICES

"THE KALLIKAK FAMILY," by Henry Herbert Goddard, Ph.D. New York, the Macmillan Company. 121 pages octavo. Price \$1.50.

This volume presents, in popular form, a study of the inheritance of mental traits, on the line of study made some years ago in connection with the famous Jukes family.

Jukes, as those who are familiar with the investigation know, was a degenerate whose posterity was traced through a number of generations, and the large number of criminals, degenerates, and general undesirables listed. The family of Jonathan Edwards was traced as forming a striking contrast with that case.

In the Kallikak family, two lines of posterity are traced from the same father. One line came from an illegitimate offspring of this senior Kalli-

kak—name fictitious—and a simple-minded girl; while the other line of posterity comes through the legitimate line of his lawful union with a high-minded and intelligent woman.

As well as showing the influence of heredity, which is the main design of the book, it shows incidentally but strikingly the effects of alcohol and of the lack of proper training.

"CUNEIFORM PARALLELS TO THE OLD TESTAMENT," translated and edited by Robert William Rogers, Ph.D. (Leipzig), Litt. D., LL. D., F.R.G.S. New York, Eaton & Mains; Cincinnati, Jennings & Graham, 1912. 470 pages octavo, with numerous plates, diagrams, etc. Price \$4.50 net.

This volume gives many photographic illustrations of the tablets that the investigators and archeologists have been rescuing from the archives of old Babylonia and Assyria. The object is to give an English translation of the whole body of documents illustrating the religion, culture, and history that developed contemporaneously with that of the Old Testament in those Eastern countries. There is besides, a great deal of study and research evidenced in the outline of history that accompanies the translations, and which is written in an easy style. Because of the reproductions of these originals and the history connected therewith, the book is very valuable for those who are interested in the study of those ancient times, the history of which is so closely interwoven with that of Bible lands and peoples.

## FOR SALE OR EXCHANGE

Owner's restored health and change of occupation throw this beautiful home ranch on the market.

Eighty acres four miles from Alamogordo, New Mexico, located on a good road, in a desirable locality. Improvements include a five-room house with sleeping-porch, cistern, cellar, good well, windmill and tank, three hundred feet of pipe and garden hose. One and one half acres family orchard, eleven varieties; shade-trees, lawn, and hedge. Twenty acres of land cleared, ten acres bordered. Good pasture, barns, and outbuildings.

If sold at once, will include four milch cows, two calves, chickens, one mare, two colts, harness, buggy, tools, implements, garden and feed crop. Price only \$2,400. Further particulars and terms may be obtained from A. F. Menger, Alamogordo, N. M.

## College &amp; School Expenses

of young men and women can be met in part by devoting their spare time to taking subscriptions for and selling the

## SIGNS OF THE TIMES MAGAZINE

Forty per cent commission given on subscriptions, and 50% to 60% allowed on sales.

Why not defray at least part of your expenses in this way? The work is educational, healthful, and remunerative too.

Here is a suggestion that is worthy of more than passing attention: Sell 25 and earn \$1.25, or 50 and earn \$3.00. Your tract society secretary will help you get started.

## SIGNS OF THE TIMES

Disgraceful  
ISN'T IT?

Who Is to Blame, the Drunkard, the Saloon-Keeper, the Liquor Manufacturer, or—Well, Never Mind. It Might Be Embarrassing to Answer the Question.

IN some places, the sight of a drunken man is only a memory. But what brought about changed conditions? Did the clean, decent element sit back with folded hands and merely shout "Hurrah" when the victory was won?—No, indeed, they did not. They first sensed their own responsibility; and realizing that it was possible to overthrow Demon Rum, they went to work. They talked, and they agitated, and they distributed temperance papers, tracts, and leaflets. Without doubt the latter agency has proved the most effective of all.

Better publications for such a campaign than those listed below can not be found. If your community is still cursed with the saloon, why not arouse your church, woman's club, or other civic betterment organization, to action? Call their attention to these excellent tracts and leaflets, and make an effort. If they fail to respond, why not get a supply, and do your own little part?

## The Demons' Council

A unique document written in allegorical style. 100 .....50c

## Prohibition or the Liquor Traffic—Which?

contains admissions from the opponents of prohibition as to the evils growing out of the liquor traffic. This is one of the strongest arguments favoring prohibition. 100 .....50c

## Story of a Dry Town

An interesting story of a town as it was with its seven saloons, and the results two years after it went dry. 100 .....25c

## Why Does the Saloon Exist?

The saloon man says he has a legal right to do business. Has he? This publication presents the "legal right" phase of the question. 100 .....\$1.00

## Dark Valley Railroad

In two colors, in the form of a railroad timetable. Gives names of stations, time of arrival of trains, and shows map of the route. Cigaretteville, Mild Drink, Tipplersville, are some of the stations. 100 .....\$1.50

## It Doesn't Pay

The question as to whether the liquor traffic pays is much debated. This tract considers the saloon from this standpoint. 100 .....\$1.00

## The Wine Industry and Prohibition

The claim is made that prohibition will throw thousands out of employment, and make valueless amounts of land. Will it? This tract answers this contention negatively, and satisfactorily to all. 100 .....\$1.00

## For the Sake of the Other Man

A touching story which impresses the reader with his duty to his weaker brother. 100, 25c.

## Pocket Package No. 4

400 pages of the above tracts assorted, in a strong Manila envelope, for 25c. Postage prepaid.

## Signs of the Times

Temperance number. Striking, forceful, interest-impelling. "One of the best things on the subject that I have ever seen." 3c a copy; 40 or more, 2½c a copy.

These may be obtained from our depository in your state.

Pacific Press Publishing Association  
MOUNTAIN VIEW, CALIFORNIA



# Promising Young Man Wrecks His Home

A Personal Experience in a Life Tragedy

By E. R. POTTER

THE charges preferred against the culprit at the "bar" are many and most serious, and demand careful investigation and prompt decision by every man, woman, and child on this world "jury."

The sworn testimony of eye-witnesses without number has substantiated every charge made, and still fresh and convicting testimony comes from the "witness-box," appealing for swift and just condemnation of the liquor traffic.

Of all the crimes committed by this traffic, none are more pernicious than its breaking up and destroying homes.

The welfare of society and the prosperity of the nation depend upon home influences. Please allow a personal witness upon this point.

## TRAGEDY OF THE YOUNG WIFE'S HOME

The first place we called our home after our wedding day, May 16, 1906, was part of a new dwelling-house on Atlantic Avenue, in the city of Winnipeg, Manitoba.

Upon acquaintance with the young couple occupying the other part of the house, we learned of the singular circumstance that they had been married on the same sixteenth of May.

We became quite intimate, and our associations were the pleasantest, as we found them to be especially kind-hearted and happy, and devoted to each other. They attended a certain mission in the city, and were, with us, much interested in Christian work.

Several weeks thus passed, when suddenly a change took place. Late one night, after we had retired, we heard our friends enter the house; but instead of the usual quietness, there were unusual sounds, which became louder and louder.

I arose and was preparing to go down to see what was the cause, when one of the mission workers called me. I went down, and on nearing the door of the nicely furnished parlor, was surprised to hear my friend say, with thickened and unnatural voice, "If Mr. Potter comes in here I will smash him."

Entering the door, I said, "I thought some one must be sick down here," to which he mumbled a reply, "We are sick." He certainly looked it. And there sat his beautiful young wife with two of the workers from the mission, all trembling with terror. Some of the furniture was broken, and his wife's dress was in tatters, giving evidence of his cruel treatment and insane actions.

I was compelled to watch him and guard his wife and friends all that night. That was the sad beginning of a bitter chapter in the history of this home.

The next few years were marked with times when he was a kind, repentant husband, and times of fearful trial and disgrace to himself and the only daughter of Christian and highly respected parents.

The last time I saw him, he was staggering on the streets of Vancouver, British Columbia, where her parents had helped him to get into new associations and new work, but with the same story repeated till the home was

broken up, the wife heart-broken, and her parents in despair of doing anything more for him.

It is the oft-repeated story of the promise of reform before the marriage vows are taken.

This noble girl felt confident, like many another, that she would be the means of reforming her husband.

## AN APPEAL IN CONSEQUENCE

I make my appeal for the sake of the children upon whom the liquor traffic stamps a curse before their birth, whom it robs of food, clothing, love, and education during their helpless years; for the sake of the young men and women whose brightest hopes and prospects it blights; for the sake of the most generous and gentle and manly of our sons and husbands whom it debauches and degrades; for the sake of our country, whose courts it fills with criminal cases, prisons with convicts, and asylums with maniacs.

Let us each render the verdict that will banish this traffic from the land.



## Twin Ballots

Along in November, when chill was the weather, Twin ballots were cast in a tin box together. They nestled up close, like brother to brother. You could not tell one of them from the other.

### Chorus

They were both rum votes,  
And sanctioned the license plan;  
But one was cast by a cunning old brewer,  
And one by a Sunday-school man.

The Sunday-school man — no man could be truer —  
Kept busy all summer downing the brewer;  
But his fever cooled off with the change of the weather,  
And late in the autumn they voted together.

The Sunday-school man had always been noted  
For fighting saloons — except when he voted.  
He piled up his prayers with a holy perfection,  
Then knocked them all down on the night of election.

The cunning old brewer was cheerful and mellow.  
Said he: "I admire that Sunday-school fellow.  
He's true to his church, to his party he's truer;  
He talks for the Lord, but he votes for the brewer."

— Anonymous.

## What Seven Influential Men Said for Prohibition

A GROUP of men casually came together at a dinner-party the other evening, and one happened to look over the table, which the women had just left, and commented on the little alcohol that had been consumed. And here is what these men said.

The first was a business man of large interests. "I wouldn't think of voting for state prohibition; but let national prohibition come up, and it will have my vote in a minute. Drinking has become an economic issue, and I am willing to give up my whisky and soda for the good of the many."

The second was a large employer of men, some eighteen thousand. "I am ready for national prohibition. Up to this time it has seemed a far-away ideal to me; now I see it as a pure efficiency measure."

The third was a clear-seeing Irishman. "Alcohol has been the curse of my people. I have stopped taking it, after forty years of occasional drinking, and my vote is ready for national prohibition."

"Go ahead," said the fourth man, a railroad official of high standing. "I am ready for it personally, and so are all the officials of our road."

A physician was the fifth. "Medicine can do without it. Science is against it. The old idea of alcohol as a food is exploded. I am all ready for my vote for national prohibition."

It was a club man who spoke next. "When I see drinking among the caddies at our club, and our caddy master silly with it, I am ready to give up my cocktail and vote against the whole business."

And last of all was a wholesale dealer in liquor, who started the talk, and who finished with this significant statement: "You're right. We are seeing the handwriting on the wall. I said at a meeting of our wholesale liquor dealers the other evening that we didn't have five years' life ahead of us. Strange as it may seem to you, I would vote for national prohibition. It's for the best all around."

Not a dissenting voice! — *Ladies' Home Journal*.

## "Crime, Booze, and Taxes"

A Striking Illustration — Hard Facts That Tell Their Own Story

By A. C. GILBERT

MUCH is said about conserving the natural resources of the country. The greatest conservation that can be accomplished is the saving of human lives from physical and moral degeneracy; and the next is the protection of the monetary income to the benefit of the producer, turning it into legitimate channels of trade.

Any power or influence that turns the earnings of toilers into avenues of profligate waste must be considered a debaucher of humanity, an abettor of crime, and a breeder of vice and misery. Such is the liquor traffic.

## THE TAXPAYER, THE POLICE, AND THE DRINKER

The province of Saskatchewan, Canada, is waging a vigorous warfare called "Banish the Bar Campaign." The campaign organ, *Banish the Bar Crusader*, contains a pertinent article that sets forth the relation of the liquor traffic to economics. It is headed, "Crime, Booze, and Taxes," and reads as follows:

"The report of the police department of the city of Regina for 1913 has just been made public, and shows a strange state of affairs.

"The taxpayers of that city pay \$57,000 annually to maintain their police force, and in the year 1913 there were apprehended or summoned by the force 2,583 offenders.

"Of these offenders, no less than 1,850 were in trouble as a direct result of the liquor traffic, which the good people of that city



voted to retain in the 1910 local option contest. . . .

"These figures mean that somewhere between seventy per cent and seventy-five per cent of the cases in the Regina police court are due to the existence in that city of the liquor traffic.

#### THIRTY-FIVE THOUSAND THROWN AWAY

"The police force, as above stated, costs the city \$57,000 yearly. The liquor traffic pays licenses to the amount of \$3,200 into the city coffers, leaving \$53,800 to be raised elsewhere. An amount about equal to the licenses is levied on the unfortunates who are arrested or summoned; and the balance, over \$50,000, comes from the rate payers. At least seventy per cent of this \$50,000 is directly due to the liquor traffic, or approximately \$35,000. And the force must be increased at once, so the chief constable says.

"What a kind, gentle, long-suffering lot of rate payers those rate payers in Regina must be!

"Surely it is high time, from an economic standpoint, that these crime-breeding, tax-leaving, vice-spawning holes should be plugged up."

Let us, by our votes, our voices, our pens, help to sweep this infernal traffic from our doors and ultimately from our land.

### Prohibition and Drunkenness

From Address by Pasadena Board  
of Labor

IT is argued that drunkenness is greater in prohibition territory. This is not a fact in Pasadena, it being very rarely that an intoxicated man is seen on the street. Of course this would not hold good in newly made prohibition communities, as it takes some years for men who have drunk freely all their lives to lose the habit. We do not believe that this charge is true in any "dry" territory; for if more liquor were consumed, then more men in the liquor industries would be employed, not discharged, and prohibition would be welcomed by the brewing interests.

The rising generation in this city is not acquiring the drink habit, because of the absence of constant temptation; and down in your own hearts, brothers, you know they are better off.

The claim is also made that local option is the proper method of settling the liquor problem, in spite of the fact that when local option is proposed in a community, the same interests tell us that local option does not prohibit, and that we should have a national law governing the matter.

We know that local option does cut down the use of intoxicating drinks, and we believe that national laws will cut it down still more.

### "Shiloh, the Man of Sorrows"

Will all those who sent in their names as advance subscribers for the book "Shiloh, the Man of Sorrows," please send in their money at once to the publishers, and receive their volume? Some are not fulfilling their pledge promptly. This is causing embarrassment, because these names were sent in by the author in good faith. So please send the \$1.50 at once, as agreed. Author's portrait free.

Address The Gorham Press, 194 Boylston Street, Boston, Massachusetts.

Mrs. L. D. Avery-Stuttle,  
1215 Vermont Avenue, Lansing, Michigan.

## Turkey and Its End

We Would See Jesus

Signs of the End

Heralds of His Coming

Waymarks to the Holy City

Without Excuse

An assortment of 22 tracts, 6 varieties, bearing the above titles, for  
400 pages, postage prepaid

25<sup>c</sup>

These tracts are among our very best on prophecy and the coming of the Lord. They contain a message which should have wide publicity at this particular time. Turkey, as every student of the prophecies knows, is to play a leading part in the closing drama of earth's history. What will be her next move? "Turkey and Its End" may be ordered independently of the others, and in any quantity desired, at two cents a copy.

Order through your state depository, and ask for Pocket Package No. 2.

PACIFIC PRESS PUBLISHING ASSN.  
Mountain View, California

Portland, Ore. Kansas City, Mo.  
Calgary, Alberta, Can.

THE THREE BEST WAYS

BETWEEN

California and the East

The CENTRAL ROUTE

Less than three days to Chicago

The SOUTHERN ROUTE

All rail or via the palatial Southern Pacific  
steamers between New Orleans  
and New York

The SHASTA ROUTE

Via Portland or the North

The best of equipment and service  
Protected throughout by auto-  
matic block signals

INQUIRE OF ANY AGENT, OR

MR. C. S. FEE  
General Passenger Agent  
San Francisco, California

**SOUTHERN PACIFIC**



## BOOKS FOR EVERYBODY



**SIXTEEN OF THEM, IN TWENTY-FIVE LANGUAGES**

THE time of year has again been reached when people will loosen up their purse-strings for any really appropriate holiday gift. It is often most perplexing to know just what to get for relatives and friends. Books are always suitable. Millions are sold every holiday season.

Over 2,000,000 copies of the *Books for the Home* have been sold. Their striking covers, the character of their contents, and the beautiful, well illustrated, nicely printed inside pages assist greatly in their sale.

Besides being in English, some of them are in Spanish, German, Danish, Swedish, Italian, Japanese—in fact, in 25 different languages.

### 40 PER CENT

Commission is allowed agents. Hundreds of persons, without previous training or experience, have gone out into their neighborhoods in their spare time and have done well. One elderly woman, when asked how she got along, said, "Well, I could only work parts of two afternoons, but I sold 23 books, and made a little over \$5.00 profit." OTHER AGENTS WANTED.

### Outfit

A nice 2-ring binder, filled with sample covers and portions of each of the 16 books, is furnished for \$1.00. This is all the expense involved in getting ready for actual business.

Now is the time to begin. Don't make the mistake of putting it off for a month or even a week, but arrange at once with our depository in your state.

PACIFIC PRESS PUBLISHING ASSN.

MOUNTAIN VIEW, CALIFORNIA





## Signs of the Times

MOUNTAIN VIEW, CALIFORNIA, OCTOBER 6, 1914

### Topsy-Turvy Evolution

PROF. WM. BATESON recently gave an address before the British Association at its meeting in Melbourne, Australia, in which he set forth the theory that Darwin and his followers have doubtless been wrong in teaching that evolution began with very simple forms of life and developed into the more complex. The professor thinks that after all, "primordial form or forms of protoplasm could have contained complexity enough to produce the divers types of life."

The evolutionist looks with a great deal of pity as well as scorn and contempt upon the individual who will not accept his varying and shifting theories. Yet it is quite evident that among themselves they can not agree. But without any agreement, they ask us to accept the theories of evolution just the same.

The Bible truth is not only far more satisfying, but it is the only reasonable solution of the sources of life and of material things that we see about us. "By faith we understand that the worlds have been framed by the word of God, so that what is seen hath not been made out of things which appear." Heb. 11:3.

Not only in this text, but in numerous other passages, the Book declares that God's word is the only source of creation. And when we see the orderly march of the planets, and observe the multiplied millions of stars shining as bright suns in the infinite space about us, who can doubt that there is an all-powerful Being capable not only of creating all of these things, but of directing their movements? The planets that revolve around our sun keep perfect time. The mathematician may figure for years to come, and tell us accurately where we will find these heavenly bodies. Such infinite precision in the movements of the immense suns and their attendant worlds can not come by chance. It is the work of the infinite Being who is not only the Creator but our heavenly Father.

And some men would try to supplant His wonderful work of creation by the absurd and conflicting theories of evolution. Let us stand by the Book, and the common sense fact stated in that Book, that "by the word of Jehovah were the heavens made, and all the host of them by the breath of His mouth." "For He spake, and it was done; He commanded, and it stood fast." Ps. 33:6, 9.

### The Sunday Issue in California

WE are giving considerable space in this number to the discussion of the proposed Sunday law by the initiative in the state of California. This will be a new experience in America. The people themselves are asked to decide whether or not California shall have a Sunday law. Heretofore such matters have been decided before legislatures. How many of the people who vote upon this question this fall will really stop to consider what they are doing?

Sentimentally, some will say that the laboring men need a day of rest, so we will vote for a Sunday law. But the laboring man can have his day of rest if he will take it, by simply exercising his independence. This is proved by the fact that there are thousands of Seventh-day Adventists—and they are scattered through every state in this Union—who observe Saturday. They require no law outside of the law of Jehovah to compel them to do it. It is true that they face difficulties. They sometimes have to give up some job of work, and seek another where they can keep the Sabbath, but they do it. And those who really desire to keep

Sunday can do it without any of these difficulties that confront the Seventh-day Adventist.

The laboring people who are in favor of such a measure do not realize the trap they are setting for themselves; for if they vote that the state may control one seventh of their time, they thereby admit that the state has a right to make them slaves, and that it can control all of their time. Are we desirous of becoming slaves?

### The Next Program for Peace

BEFORE this awful war in Europe broke out, we were assured, over and over again, that our Christian civilization in all of the great world powers was such that we would have no more wars of any consequence. We were told that our powerful cannon and our big battle-ships, our submarines and our military aeroplanes, were so terrible that men would not face them in actual war, and that really they were "peacemakers." But this war, coming like an explosion, has dissipated that idea; and the world for the time being is awake to the fact that the most barbarous, the most cruel, and the most destructive fighting this world has ever known is now in progress.

Within two months, war is declared, millions of men are in the field fighting, and more thousands of persons have been killed, and more property has

as any who have ever lived. But regardless of these, our world is in a desperate situation. God foresaw it, and pointed out, through the prophets, that the conditions in this time would be war and not peace; and the stormy sentiments in society everywhere ought to arouse us to the fact that God's word is correct in what it has foretold.

We may expect this war to close, possibly as suddenly as it began, but it will not end the strife. The Book explains that things will continue to grow worse and worse until finally the only thing that can meet the climax of violence, strife, and wickedness in general will be the mighty power displayed in the second coming of Christ.

Let us not lose sight of the fact that the Book which has foretold these wars has also foretold the mistaken notes of peace that would be sounding in these war times. It is "when they are saying, Peace and safety," that "sudden destruction cometh upon them, as travail upon a woman with child; and they shall in no wise escape." 1 Thess. 5:3.

### Commercial Men and the Sunday Law

THE Chamber of Commerce of Los Angeles has been examining the initiative measure, to be No. 45 on the November ballot, having the title, 'One Day of Rest in Seven'; and Mr. Bradner W. Lee, chairman of its committee on laws, has reported on it as follows:

"The initiative measure proposing to provide one day in seven as a day of rest, would undoubtedly be made an instrument for punishment, in accordance with its penal clause, of all persons who permitted any persons in their employ to perform any class of labor on that day. Even though an attempt is therein made to except what is denominated 'works of daily necessity,' yet the measure is so full of uncertainties even in this regard, that were it to become a law, the courts would be kept busy in attempting to interpret it when called upon to enforce its penal clause. Many persons might be under the belief that they were strictly complying with its requirements, and yet unconsciously violating them. It is not a well-considered measure, even though its title seems to provide for that which every reasonable person would not oppose, and undoubtedly would probably favor.

"The proposed act is masked under a title which undoubtedly should and would be popular, yet the measure itself can be made an instrument productive of great harm should it become a law. It belongs to the same class of legislation as the proposed amendment to the penal code known as Proposition No. 3, hereinbefore referred to."

Proposition No. 3, referred to in this careful analysis, is the measure intended to restrict all labor in the state of California to eight hours a day, or forty-eight hours in a week. This eminent lawyer sees in No. 45 a danger that was designed to be covered by a supposed popular church measure, and by thus masking its real import, draw to its support all religious organizations. In view, however, of the legal report rendered, the Chamber of Commerce at once voted to combat initiative measure No. 45, known as the Sunday rest bill, and is now sending out opposition literature to affiliated bodies throughout the state.

It is to be hoped that other organizations formed on behalf of successful labor and good citizenship will join the campaign against this pernicious legislation. J. O. C.

God's Book says that "the seventh day is the Sabbath of the Lord thy God." There is no evidence, anywhere in that Book, that God ever changed this law, or authorized any one else to change it. And have you ever thought of the fact that when a state, through an initiative, or when a legislature, assumes to pass a law requiring the observance of Sunday, in that very act it is setting up a direct opposition to the law of Jehovah? Making Sunday laws is rather serious business. Men should think before they leap into any movement that would assume to set aside the plain declaration of the great Jehovah, the mighty Creator, by placing a man-made institution in its stead.



© International News Service

DOG-DRAWN MACHINE GUN, BELGIAN ARMY

*Dogs are trained in most of the European armies so that they bring these deadly weapons very rapidly into action, and are not a very good target for the enemy.*

been destroyed, than in a year or possibly in four or five years of any past wars.

God's word has predicted that in this time, the nations would be angry, and the spirit of war would be rife; but men have been saying "No" to the sacred Book. They have been telling us that we are approaching an era of peace. So now our good peace advocates—thousands of whom, without any question, are perfectly sincere in what they have been and are saying—are beginning to tell us that we have been on the wrong tack in the past; that in place of these great implements of war being peacemakers, we should have disarmed the nations; and that if we did not have these destructive armaments, then we would have no danger of war, as our civilization would prevent it. Hence a strong crusade is already setting in in favor of peace and disarmament, and we are already earnestly told that this war will be so terrible that its lesson will be sufficient for all time, and that we will be in danger of no more wars.

But be not deceived by these things. The good Book says that "the heart is deceitful above all things, and it is exceedingly corrupt: who can know it? I, Jehovah, search the mind, I try the heart, even to give every man according to his ways, according to the fruit of his doings." Jer. 17:9, 10.

Our deceitful hearts lead us to believe that our civilization and our Christianity are very superior in this age and generation; and without question there are multiplied thousands of men and women living to-day who stand as high in Christian morals