

SIGNS OF THE TIMES



Vol. 67, No. 4

THE COMING WORLD GOVERNMENT

See page 6

January 23, 1940

INTERNATIONAL



the flight of TIME



WATCH ROME

FOR more than two thousand years the city of Rome has played a large and important role in the affairs of the nations.

During the greater part of this long period, either through pagan emperors or papal pontiffs, it ruled the world.

With the coming of the Reformation in the sixteenth century its influence and authority began to wane. Then, in 1798, following the French Revolution and the subsequent invasion of the city by General Berthier, its reputation sank to the lowest ebb. With the pontiff himself dying a prisoner of France, "all Europe thought that with the pope the papacy was dead."

So it seemed. The city, and the papacy, and all connected with it, suffered a shattering reverse at this time, and the Bible prophet, telling the story in advance, pictured the event as a proud beast "wounded to death." Revelation 13:3.

That this prophecy refers to the papacy there can be no doubt whatever. Its application has been proved a thousand times. Perhaps the most convincing evidence is the statement that "the dragon gave him his power, and his seat, and great authority." Verse 2. This is exactly what happened when pagan Rome

A Survey of World Events

By the EDITOR

gave place to papal Rome in the sixth century A. D.

But if this astounding prophecy *does* refer to the papacy, as we believe, then it demands the closest attention at this time, for there is one portion still partly unfulfilled: "His deadly wound was healed; and all the world wondered after the beast. And they worshiped the dragon which gave power unto the beast: and they worshiped the beast, saying, Who is like unto the beast? who is able to make war with him?" Verses 3, 4.

The deadly wound, inflicted a century and a half ago, is now virtually healed. In 1929, the concordat between the Italian State and the Vatican removed most of the grievances between the two powers. The "prisoner of the Vatican" was released. A new Vatican State was organized, with its own territory, radio station, postal system, railroad depot, and

INTERNATIONAL
With Russia now in the role of aggressor, new importance is given to Sweden's defenses. Above are two of her expanding force of bombing planes.

all essential signs of complete independence. The pope became a king again—king of the smallest but perhaps most influential dominion in the world.

For ten years now there have been two kings in Rome. How much collaboration or opposition there has been between them no one knows. However, no matter what political differences may have separated them in the past, their present friendship is unquestioned. The two kings have met twice, first in the Vatican, secondly in the Quirinal.

"This extraordinary visit," wrote Richard G. Massock of the Associated Press, on December 28, referring to the call of Pope Pius XII at the Royal Palace, "in return for the call made by King Vittorio Emanuele and Queen Elena on the Holy Father at the Vatican a week ago, symbolized complete reciprocal recognition of the two great sovereignties established on opposite banks of the Tiber."

Royce Brier, famous news commentator of the San Francisco *Chronicle*, said of this latest development: "Had the occupants of the two thrones at any time in the past exchanged visits, as they are now doing, it would have had no temporal significance beyond the immediate problems of the papacy and the Italian dynasty. Now it has a significance beyond compute, possibly world-wide in scope."

Brier is right.

All eyes are turning once more to

OUR COVER PICTURE

The new war has led to many strange anomalies, not the least remarkable of which is depicted on our cover this week. Here is the ancient Egyptian obelisk in the Place de la Concorde, Paris, sand-bagged to preserve it against twentieth-century air raids.

Rome. Everybody is expecting some peace move from that quarter. Even Mr. Roosevelt has felt it expedient to appoint a special "personal representative to the Vatican;" and it is said that this envoy, Myron C. Taylor, retired steel magnate and head of the intergovernmental refugee committee, is to enjoy full social, although not official, rank of ambassador at the Holy See.

With this distinguished addition to the diplomatic force assembled in Rome, there are now more nations represented at the Vatican than ever before in history.

Strange, is it not, how all the world is pandering to the very power "which had the wound by a sword, and did live"! Revelation 13:14.

It will be well to watch Rome closely in the days that are just ahead.



"PREPOSTEROUS DEGREES"

"THE creation of academic degrees," said Frederick P. Keppel, President of the Carnegie Corporation of New York, the other day, "has increased to a preposterous point in the United States."

Except in "a few strong professions," he declared in his annual report, "they often mean literally nothing, yet often serve as the only test of a job seeker's capabilities."

"All over the country teaching and other vacancies are being filled by degrees, not by men and women, the appointing bodies accepting the diploma as a substitute for the tiresome process of really finding out something as to the professional and personal qualifications of individual human beings."

Everybody who has sat on the board of an educational institution knows how



Even the United States is experimenting with tank barricades, the above picture showing an army tank in difficulties after crashing into the piles. Photograph from International and U. S. Army Signal Corps.

true is this description. A case in point came to our notice some time ago. A new teacher was needed in a certain school, and a file of applications was studied. One was picked out, and the first question was, What degrees? Plenty. Half a dozen at least. Letters streaming off the page. So the individual was accepted, only to prove a hopeless failure in the fine art of training young people.

We would not minimize the value of degrees as marking certain standards of educational attainment; but degrees are not everything. Nor are they the most important acquisition for which young men and young women should seek. Development of character, good judgment, and plain common sense are infinitely more vital to real and lasting success.

Truly, the best degrees are to be coveted, as the apostle Paul suggests; but there is "a more excellent way." 1 Corinthians 12:31. And the secret of excelling in life is the growth of Christian

qualities in the soul, a widening vision of others' needs, a deepening desire to spend and be spent in the service of God and humanity.



ONE UNGUARDED ENTRANCE

SOME weeks ago the newspapers blazed with headlines concerning the sinking of the British battleship "Royal Oak" by a submarine.

Later the news leaked out that the attack actually took place while the great ship lay at anchor in Scapa Flow, the famous naval base in the Orkney Islands.

But was not Scapa Flow supposed to be impregnable? Had not every possible entrance been thoroughly protected by heavy mine fields? Were not the secret passages too intricate for any strange submarine to negotiate?

Thus everybody questioned; and it was not until Mr. Winston Churchill, First Lord of the British Admiralty, made his official report of the disaster to Parliament that the truth came out.

Mr. Churchill admitted that while it was generally believed that the anchorage was absolutely safe, it had been discovered that, after all, there was one unguarded entrance. It was so small and shallow and perilous to shipping that nobody had dreamed any vessel would attempt its passage.

But it was through this one unguarded entrance that the submarine silently approached on its mission of death; and because of this one unguarded entrance eight hundred lives were lost and a mighty ship worth ten million dollars was blown to pieces.

And many a man has been destroyed by the enemy because he left one unguarded entrance to his soul.

The spotlight many soon be turned upon these Rumanian soldiers keeping guard on the Soviet-Bessarabian frontier.





FULFILLING PROPHECIES

Make Men THINK

*The Greatest Message
for This Hour*

by

W. A. SPICER

IN TIMES like these, fidelity to the gospel requires that the subject of fulfilling prophecy be stressed continually. Things foretold are taking place before our eyes.

For this stressing of the "sure word of prophecy" we have the example of Christ and of the apostolic preachers in the time of the first advent. That was a day also of prophetic fulfillment.

All the prophets had borne messages to keep alive the hope of the coming of the promised Messiah. At last the time of the prophecy came. It was a dark time; but what a burst of light from heaven came upon that generation! Some of the most vivid and eloquent lines I know describe it. They are from that wonderful book, "The Desire of Ages":

"The deception of sin had reached its height. All the agencies for depraving the souls of men had been put in operation. The Son of God, looking upon the world, beheld suffering and misery. With pity He saw how men had become victims of satanic cruelty. . . . They had chosen a ruler who chained them to his car as captives. Bewildered and deceived, they were moving on in gloomy procession, toward eternal ruin,—to death in which is no hope of life, toward night to which comes no morning. Satanic agencies were incorporated with men. . . .

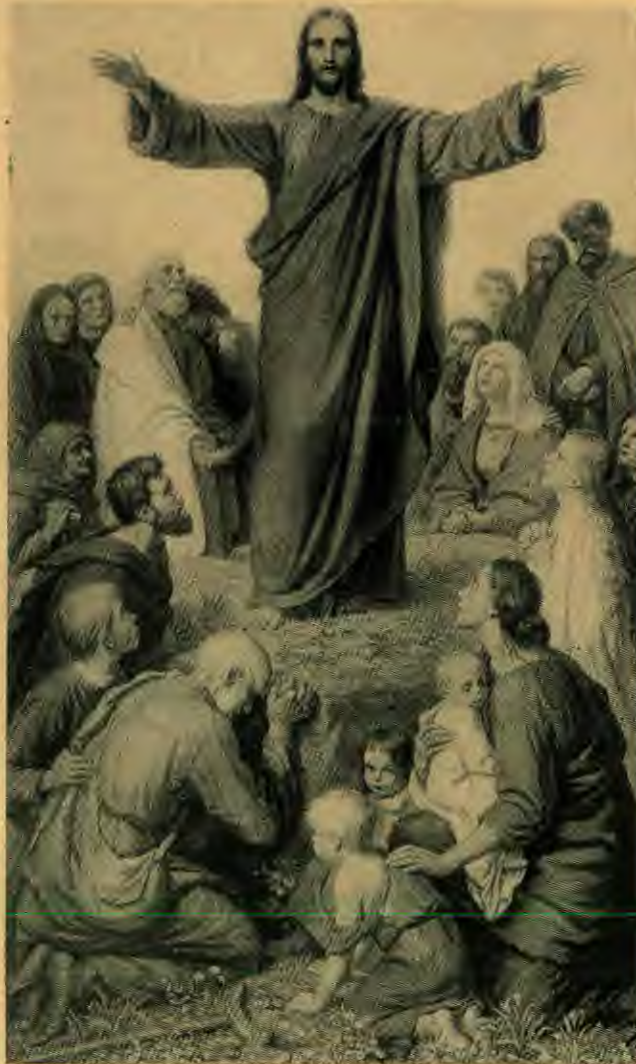
"Sin had become a science, and vice was consecrated as a part of religion. . . . It was demonstrated before the universe that, apart from God, humanity could not be uplifted. A new element of life and power must be imparted by Him who made the world. . . . And when the fullness of the time had come, the Deity was glorified by pouring upon the world a flood of healing grace that was never to be obstructed or withdrawn till the plan of salvation should be fulfilled."—*Pages 36, 37.*

When Jesus took up His public ministry, the first note of the gospel message emphasized ful-

filling prophecy: "Jesus came into Galilee, preaching the gospel of the kingdom of God, and saying, The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand: repent ye, and believe the gospel." Mark 1:14, 15.

On the day of Pentecost, the outpouring of the Spirit drew great crowds to the meeting place of the apostles in Jerusalem. Peter, the converted fisherman, stood up to preach the first sermon under pentecostal power. What would he preach about? He called the multitude to see that prophecy was fulfilling: "Ye men of Judea, and all ye that dwell at Jerusalem, be this known unto you, and hearken to my words. . . . This is that which was spoken by the prophet Joel." Acts 2:14-16.

"Deity was glorified by pouring upon the world a flood of healing grace."



Listen! he cried. Long ages ago God spoke by the prophets. He told of these times of the Messiah. He foretold events. Here they are before your eyes. Prophecy is fulfilling. The time has come! And what are you going to do about it? That message of fulfilling prophecy made men think. "They were pricked in their heart," and they cried, "What shall we do?"

So also at Antioch, a Gentile city but a great Jewish center, the apostle Paul cried out: "Men and brethren, children of the stock of Abraham, and whosoever among you feareth God, to you is the word of this salvation sent. . . . And we declare unto you glad tidings, how that the promise which was made unto the fathers, God hath fulfilled the same unto us their children." Acts 13:26-33.

What prophecy had foretold was fulfilling before their eyes. It was God's challenge to come to decision, His challenge to men to obey the gospel call.

With the opening of the Holy Scriptures after the Middle Ages came the Reformation. It was the beginning of the cutting short of a long period of intolerance and darkness. The prophecy of Daniel had foretold the 1260 years of the reign of apostasy, which was to stand against God's holy law and seek to "wear out the saints of the Most High." Daniel 7:25.

Christ foretold the cutting short of the full period of this persecution, lest believers should actually be worn out. Referring to the appointed time of the

prophecy, He said: "Then shall be great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be. And except those days should be shortened, there should no flesh be saved: but for the elect's sake those days shall be shortened." Matt. 24:21, 22.

Accordingly, the Holy Scriptures were opened at last, amidst peril and persecution, and the light of the great Reformation began to spread in blessing over the world. The days of persecution were shortened. To the leaders of the Reformation movement the "sure word of prophecy" was a guiding light in that time. J. A. Wylie of Scotland, historian of the Reformation period, wrote:

"The Reformation church early devoted herself to the study of the prophetic page. It was natural she should. No sooner has the mariner freed himself from the skirts of some dense fog, which had shut out sea and sky from his sight, than his first glance is at the stars. With the return of light he endeavors to ascertain his exact place on the ocean. The church at the Reformation had just escaped from the darkness which had so long enveloped her from the papal abyss; and her first effort, by the help of prophecy, was to ascertain her position on the chart of time. Lifting her eyes to the firmament of revelation, she began reverently to read the great lights of prophecy."—"The Great Exodus," page 10.

Now, with the second coming of Christ even at the door, more than ever in the past the gospel preacher is called upon to preach the message of fulfilling prophecy. All prophecy, of all the ages since the fall of Adam, focuses its light upon our time, and we must repeat the call of the apostle Peter after Pentecost:

"Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord; and He shall send Jesus Christ, which before was preached unto you: whom the heaven must receive until the times of restitution of all things, which God hath spoken by the mouth of all His holy prophets since the world began." Acts 3:19-21.

The time of refreshing has begun, in the outpouring of the Holy Spirit. The very spotlight of all prophecy is turned upon this generation. Great things have been fulfilled. The greatest things are just at hand. The crisis of world history is just before us. Of course, the gospel message must continually stress the subject of divine prophecy. It must call to men in the terms of the apostolic preachers of old: Men and brethren, listen! look! That which God foretold by the prophets, the same is fulfilling before your eyes. God is speaking to you today by His fulfilling word of prophecy. And what are you going to do about it?



WHY ALL THIS RUSH?

The Secret of a Quiet Mind

by J. M. MARKS

PLUTARCH tells the story of Pyrrhus, one of the great warriors of antiquity, who, in an interval of leisure while preparing to invade Italy, chatted with his favorite adviser, Cineas. Cineas asked what they would do if they conquered the Romans.

"Sicily is near," replied Pyrrhus; "we shall invade that rich island."

"But shall we stop there?" gently asked Cineas.

"If heaven smiles," Pyrrhus said, "that will be but the preliminary to greater enterprises. We shall conquer Macedonia."

"And then?" Cineas asked quietly.

Pyrrhus smiled. "Why, then, we shall sit at ease and drink bumpers, and gladden our hearts with talk."

"But," Cineas said at last, "what stands in our way now to enjoy these privileges of ease? We have them at hand, without bloodshed and trouble to ourselves and toil and peril to others."

We are not told what Pyrrhus replied, but evidently much the same as a modern would-be conqueror would reply were a philosopher to advise similarly today. Nations are rushing dizzily toward—what? Can their leaders answer Cineas's last question? How many are ready to admit that they have the privileges of ease and peace without bloodshed and trouble to themselves and toil and peril to others? How many know where they are going, and what they will have when they get there?

If this is true of nations, how much truer it is of individual men! How must this world in its chaos and confusion appear to the angels as they look upon the teeming

millions rushing pell-mell, grasping, grubbing, grabbing! Why be intemperate of time, indifferent to health, insensible to the welfare of others, in a madness to accomplish something? An obviously inadequate answer is that "one has to make a living." What is a living? Is it that wild rush to store up stocks and bonds, gold and silver, dollars and dollars, that merely represents the accumulation of things to eat, to wear, and to parade?

"No," someone says, "wealth means power, a place in the sun, respect of one's fellow men."

Stripped of all sophistries, power is sought merely in the delusion that it will bring peace and the enjoyment of life, which is, as Cineas said, "at hand, without bloodshed and trouble to ourselves and toil and peril to others."

Man's fear of facing the morrow without those things necessary to living has driven him away from life into Existence Street, a dead-end street, ever promising, yet ever failing to lead to life. So he exists instead of lives because he is caught in the whirlpool of fear, which spins him round and round, and slowly sucks him under even to the end of his earthly existence, and then to eternal darkness.

We are all suffering from the pressure of nonessentials and of soul-destroying pleasures. Much of our energy is being burned and vitiated by devotion to the demoralizing and devastating situations of a whirlpool existence.

The constant drive and desire to "get

(Continued on page 10)

The Coming WORLD GOVERNMENT

*One Supreme Ruler
to Take the Throne*

by CARLYLE B. HAYNES

A SUPREME world ruler! All the world under one sovereign! This is where all world events are moving.

This is not the opinion of an alarmist. It is the definite prediction of the ancient inspired prophets. It is the reluctant but pronounced conclusion of thousands of clear-eyed observers who look out upon a world shaken to its very center by forces that have gotten altogether beyond control.

A vague, uneasy, fearful impression has taken hold of millions of minds throughout the world that some stupendous, world-shattering event lies just in the future, whether for good or for ill they do not know. And all the anticipations and plans and arrangements of men are gilded or clouded by this impression. Over the air, in the press, from the pulpit and platform, and in legislative halls, we hear voices, each proclaiming its own views of the future in tones oracular, prophetic, fantastic, sublime, and ridiculous.

We are in the grip of stupendous events. The world is staggering toward the blackest and most terrible period of its long history. We face a new order of things. Each new day contains possibilities that are appalling. A world is passing. A future all unknown to men is in the making.

Looking back over the past history of men, we gather little hope for the future. Much as men have desired peace and prosperity, their desires have not been fulfilled. Human projects have failed, human hopes have proved phantoms, human promises have turned out to be falsehoods, human expectations have not been realized. All that wisdom, genius, education, civilization, and philanthropy have accomplished still leaves the whole head sick and the whole heart faint.

While men may not know what the future holds, there is a Watcher in the heavens who does know. The occurrences taking place on earth are not unnoticed in heaven; and all heaven is astir with the most intense activity in preparation for the greatest event in human history.

God has made it known that these tumults and turmoils of earth are preparatory to "the kingdoms of this world" becoming "the kingdoms of our Lord, and of His Christ." Revelation 11:15.

That is the next great development in human affairs. The tumult and shouting are about to die away forever. All the earth is to pass under the sovereignty of the Lord of lords and King of kings.

World History Foretold

In the days of Babylon, the first universal empire, God opened before its king, the mighty Nebuchadnezzar, in a dream, the entire course of this world's history from that ancient time to the very end of the world. In one night God unfolded the history of more than twenty-five hundred years. This prophecy you will find in the second chapter of Daniel.

In his dream, the king saw a great image, with head of gold, breast and arms of silver, belly and thighs of brass, and legs of iron, and its toes part iron and part clay.

Daniel, the young Hebrew prophet, being taught of God, interpreted the meaning of this dream to the king. In doing so he made plain the future history of the world. His prophetic eye ranged down the entire course of human history to the very end, and he saw the rise and fall of great nations.

During twenty-five hundred years Daniel's prophecy has been amazingly



*Earth's history from Babylonia
to God's kingdom was pictured
for men.*

fulfilled. Just as he foretold, the very kingdoms he foresaw have come and gone. In exact order they have marched through the centuries.

He named Babylon as the head of gold. He declared that Babylon would be followed by another kingdom typified by the breast and arms of silver. In the course of time this came to pass in the rise of Medo-Persia.

The prophet declared that Medo-Persia would be followed by a third kingdom of brass, which would bear rule over all the earth. This came to pass when Medo-Persia was overthrown by Alexander the Great, who established the world empire of Greece.

Greece, in turn, was to be overthrown and destroyed. The prophet explained that it would be followed by a nation represented in the image by the legs of iron. This was "the great iron monarchy of Rome." It crushed all opposition, and brought the known world under its sway.

But the course of the prophecy did not stop with Rome. The feet of the image are especially mentioned, with their ten toes, and the prophet made it plain that

(Continued on page 14)

BETTER TIMES AHEAD

*The Wonderful New World
God Is Planning for
His People*

by O. J. DAHL



THERE are better times coming. One day the kingdom of God will be set up, from which all trouble, care, and sorrow will be banished.

The kingdom of God is a Biblical subject vaguely understood by many, although it is a prominent theme of both the Old and the New Testament. This kingdom is to be the home of the redeemed throughout all ages, so, if we plan to spend eternity there as citizens, we ought to know something about where it will be, what it will be like, and what kind of beings will live in it.

As to where this kingdom will be, we read in Daniel 7:27: "The kingdom and dominion, and the greatness of the kingdom under the whole heaven, shall be given to the people of the saints of the Most High, whose kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and all dominions shall serve and obey Him." Here we observe that the kingdom which constitutes the home of the saints, or saved ones, is to embrace all that is "under the whole heaven." This is also in harmony with what Jesus taught in the Sermon on the Mount. He said: "Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth." Matthew 5:5. From the beginning God gave the earth to the children of men (Psalm 115:16); and the purpose of the plan of salvation is not only to save men from sin, but also to restore to man all he lost through sin, including the Eden home.

At the present time the saints do not possess very much of the earth, for it is mostly in the hands of some finance company of one sort or another; and most of them have no regard for God, and care very little for His word or His promises, while the rightful owners—the followers of Christ—are frequently only tenants, with scarcely enough to live on. But the time will soon come when the usurpers will have to move out, and the rightful heirs will take possession of their inheritance, purchased for them by the death of Jesus on Calvary.

To Abraham, the father of all them that believe, the Lord said: "Lift up now thine eyes, and look from the place where thou art northward, and southward, and

eastward, and westward: for all the land which thou seest, to thee will I give it, and to thy seed forever." Genesis 13:14, 15. That this promise was not limited to the land that Abraham could view from the point where he was standing is clear from Romans 4:13, where we are told that he was promised "that he should be the heir of the world."

"Well," says one, "that may be all right for the posterity of Abraham; but what is there for me to look forward to?" Thank God, He has made provision for us too; and here it is: "If ye be Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise." Galatians 3:29.

This promise, however, does not refer to the earth in its present condition, but as it will be in its renewed state. Says the apostle Peter, speaking of the antediluvian world that was destroyed by water: "The heavens and the earth, which are now, by the same word are kept in store, reserved unto fire against the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men. . . . Nevertheless we, according to His promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness." 2 Peter 3:7, 13.

A City Whose Maker Is God

That Abraham understood the promise that way is emphasized by the author of the epistle to the Hebrews, where we read as follows: "By faith Abraham, when he was called to go out into a place which he should after receive for an inheritance, obeyed; and he went out, not knowing whither he went. By faith he sojourned in the Land of Promise, as in a strange country, dwelling in tabernacles with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise: for he looked for a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God. . . . These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off, and were persuaded of them, and embraced them, and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth." Hebrews 11:8-13.

Why did they regard themselves as

strangers and pilgrims on this earth? Because they looked for "a better country, that is, an heavenly"—a heavenlike country; and so the record is that "He hath prepared for them a city." Verse 16.

It was this new heaven and new earth that John saw in vision, and of which he speaks in Revelation 21:1-3: "I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea. And I John saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people, and God Himself shall be with them, and be their God. That will indeed be Eden restored. Therein will be the tree of life, and the river of life will flow through the midst of the city; and "there shall be no night there."

In that beautiful homeland, "the inhabitant shall not say, I am sick;" for there will be no sickness or "death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away." Isaiah 33:24; Revelation 21:4. No, there will be no broken hearts or tearstained faces, for "God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes." Never again shall we have to look upon the lifeless form of a loved one, or stand by the bedside of a suffering friend. We shall no more behold the mangled form of one crushed in a terrible accident; and there will be no more funeral trains, for there will be no more death. What a happy life it will be! I want to be there, don't you?

Someone says: "What kind of beings shall we be in the new earth?" To this question the apostle John gives the answer: "Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when He shall appear, we shall be like Him; for we shall see Him as He is." 1 John 3:2.

Since it says that we shall be like Jesus, let us see what kind of body He had after He was raised from the dead. To

(Continued on page 14)

Amazing Pl

THROUGHOUT all the years that have elapsed since creation's birth, one event—the visit of the Prince of heaven to this planet—towers high above every other. No matter what men may individually think about Jesus Christ, the civilized world bows to Him as the greatest personality of history. In the language of Jean Paul Richter, "the crucified Jew, being the holiest among the mighty, the mightiest among the holy, has lifted with His pierced hands empires off their hinges, turned the stream of centuries out of its channel, and still governs the ages."

As a thread of scarlet is woven into every strand of rope possessed by the British Navy, so the story of Jesus Christ runs throughout the entire Bible. In the divine plan for our world, God purposed to fill it with a noble race of happy, sinless men and women. Isaiah 45:18. But when the blight of sin entered Eden, the all-wise Creator was not overwhelmed with surprise, or found unprepared. To meet the contingency of evil, should it appear, the Son of God was already pledged as "the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world." On the very day when our first parents fell through disobedience, there was announced the first promise of a Deliverer, who would "bruise the serpent's head" (Genesis 3:15), and bring to them eternal victory.

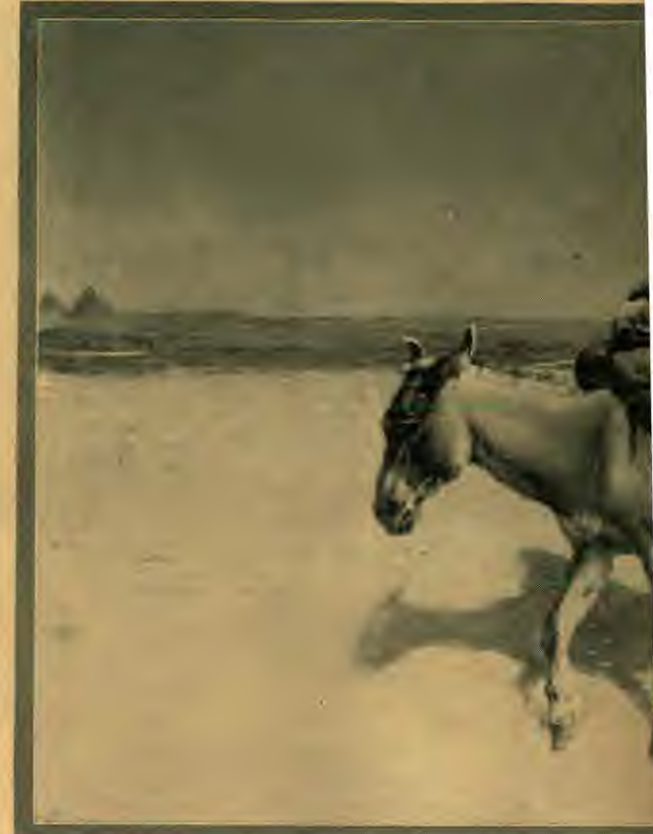
"The New [Testament] is in the Old concealed; the Old is by the New revealed." The promise to Adam and Eve is the first link in a remarkable chain of prophecies given century after century by patriarchs and prophets who lived and witnessed for God. Nearly six millenniums have elapsed, yet throughout all the vicissitudes of subsequent history that first prophetic gem has been cherished and preserved as a beacon light of Christian hope and a testimony to infinite love.

The next specific promise of a Messiah appears in the prophetic words of the dying patriarch Jacob, who said: "The scepter shall not depart from Judah, nor a lawgiver from between his feet, until Shiloh come; and unto Him shall the gathering of the people be." Genesis 49:10. Of the twelve sons of Jacob, Judah alone was to be honored as an ancestor of the coming Deliverer; and, in the New Testament, his name is inscribed in the royal lineage of Abraham, David, and Solomon, the kingly line reaching its culmination and climax in the birth of Jesus.

Long before that auspicious event, the birthplace of the coming Saviour was designated by the prophet Micah. It was not to occur at Jerusalem, the capital of



The childhood exile of Jesus in Egypt, foretold by Hosea, was but one of the fulfilled prophecies of Him and His work.



HALL

the nation; "but thou, Bethlehem Ephraim, though thou be little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of thee shall He come forth unto Me that is to be ruler in Israel; whose goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting." Micah 5:2.

Manner of Birth Foretold

Seven centuries elapse, and while the shepherds were guarding their flocks on the plains of Bethlehem, there came the announcement: "I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord." Luke 2:10, 11.

The divine miracle of the virgin birth was foretold by an ancient prophet: "The Lord Himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a Son, and shall call His name Immanuel." Isaiah 7:14. The first chapter of the New Testament records the fulfillment. Mary of Nazareth was the favored virgin; while the Hebrew name "Immanuel" is interpreted, "God with us." Matthew 1:18-25.

On the scroll of the ages the calendar announcing the birth of the Christ Child had been predated. The scepter was not

to depart from Judah until the coming of Shiloh (Genesis 49:10); and when Herod the Great (37 to 4 B. C.), the first alien prince to reign upon the Judean throne, ruled in Palestine, that event was a signal for the advent of Christ. In the same year that Herod died, our Lord was born.

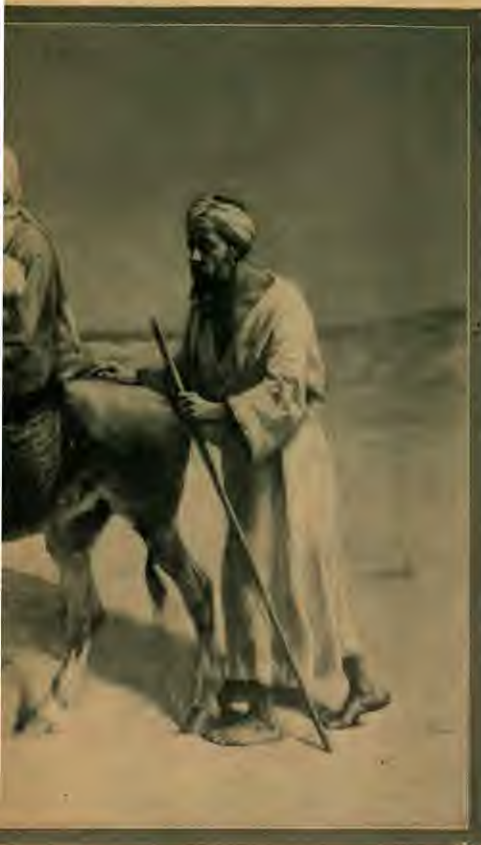
Even more explicit is the prophecy of Daniel. He declared that Messiah the Prince would appear at the end of the sixty-ninth week, prophetic time, or 483 literal years after the decree of Artaxerxes to rebuild Jerusalem. Precisely at the expiration of that period (457 B. C. to 27 A. D.) "when the fullness of the time was come," Christ was baptized, received the heavenly anointing, and went forth on His mission with the message, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand." Daniel 9:23-26; Ezra 7:1-26; Galatians 4:4; Mark 1:14, 15.

As they studied the Hebrew Scriptures, the wise men of the East read of the star that would herald the advent of the Messiah, and, following that sign in the heavens, were guided along the eventful journey to Bethlehem. Being "mocked of the wise men," Herod's jealousy and anger found expression in the cruel massacre of the innocent babes. "Then was fulfilled that which was spoken by

PREDICTIONS Fulfilled in CHRIST

A Remarkable Chain of Bible Prophecies Concerning the Coming Messiah

by ROY F. COTTRELL



Jeremy the prophet, saying, In Rama was there a voice heard, lamentation, and weeping, and great mourning, Rachel weeping for her children, and would not be comforted, because they are not." Matthew 2:16-18. This tragedy was foretold six centuries before Christ. Jeremiah 31:15.

His Forerunner Indicated

The prophet Hosea visioned Christ's childhood exile in Egypt, and His return. Hosea 11:1; Matthew 2:13-15. Isaiah also foreshadowed the work of John the Baptist in heralding the ministry of Christ: "The voice of him that crieth in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God." "Say unto the cities of Judah, Behold your God!" Isaiah 40:3, 9. The startling messages of this dynamic desert preacher attracted great multitudes; and, when asked of his identity, John replied: "I am the voice of one crying in the wilderness, Make straight the way of the Lord, as said the prophet Esaias." John 1:23.

Zebulun and Naphtali were designated by the "gospel prophet" as the lands to be favored by Christ's earthly ministry. He said: "The people that walked in

darkness have seen a great light: they that dwell in the land of the shadow of death, upon them hath the light shined." Isaiah 9:1, 2; Matthew 4:12-16. Nazareth, Cana, Capernaum, and adjacent communities were located within those tribal boundaries; and so much of the Master's time was spent in that obscure region that He was contemptuously called a "Nazarene" and a "Galilean."

Our Lord's lowly birth and humble origin were revealed in Messianic prophecy: "He shall grow up before Him as a tender plant, and as a root out of a dry ground: He hath no form nor comeliness; and when we shall see Him, there is no beauty that we should desire Him." Isaiah 53:2.

Likewise His rejection and sorrow of heart were faithfully delineated by the penman of long ago: "He is despised and rejected of men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief. . . . He hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows. . . . He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon Him; and with His stripes we are healed." Verses 3-5.

The Old Testament presents an outline of the work and service Christ was to render in preaching the gospel and restoring the sick. Of a Sabbath service conducted by the Great Teacher at Nazareth the record states: "When He had opened the book, He found the place where it was written, The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me, because He hath anointed Me to preach the gospel to the poor; He hath sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised. . . . And He began to say unto them, This day is this scripture fulfilled in your ears." Luke 4:17-21; cf. Isaiah 61:1.

Five hundred years before it happened, the prophet Zechariah described the scenes at Christ's triumphal entry into

Jerusalem. He said: "Shout, O daughter of Jerusalem: behold, thy King cometh unto thee: He is just, and having salvation; lowly, and riding upon an ass, and upon a colt the foal of an ass." Zechariah 9:9. Those words were remarkably fulfilled when Christ, following the traditional Hebrew custom of uncrowned princes, rode into Jerusalem on a colt, while the multitudes shouted: "Blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord; Hosanna in the highest." Matthew 21:1-11.

Every Prediction Fulfilled Exactly

In the divine preview, the period allotted to Christ's public ministry was to be three and a half years. Daniel 9:26, 27. From the New Testament record and the concurrent testimony of credible authorities it is found that the Master's years of public labor began in the autumn of 27 A. D., and ended in the spring of 31 A. D., accurately fulfilling the Scripture forecast.

Numerous Old Testament prophecies pointed to the circumstances and events clustering about the last week of our Lord's earthly life prior to His death and resurrection:

The Betrayal by a Trusted Friend

Prophecy: Psalm 41:9; Zechariah 13:6.
Fulfillment: John 13:18.

The Silver Bribe

Prophecy: Zechariah 11:12, 13.
Fulfillment: Matthew 27:9.

The Traitor's End

Prophecy: Psalm 109:8.
Fulfillment: Acts 1:16-26.

The Mock Trial

Prophecy: Isaiah 53:8.
Fulfillment: Matthew 27:1-31.

Christ's Silence in Presence of Accusers

Prophecy: Isaiah 53:7.
Fulfillment: Matthew 27:12-14.

Christ Numbered With Transgressors

Prophecy: Isaiah 53:12.
Fulfillment: Matthew 27:38.

Christ's Prayer for His Enemies

Prophecy: Isaiah 53:12.

Fulfillment: Luke 23:34.

His Garments Divided and Lots Cast

Prophecy: Psalm 22:18.

Fulfillment: John 19:23, 24.

The Pierced Hands, Feet, and Side

Prophecy: Zechariah 12:10; Psalm 22:16.

Fulfillment: John 19:18, 34-37.

No Bone to Be Broken

Prophecy: Psalm 34:20.

Fulfillment: John 19:32-36.

"With the Rich in His Death"

Prophecy: Isaiah 53:9.

Fulfillment: Matthew 27:57-60.

Subjected to Cruel Mockings

Prophecy: Psalm 22:7, 8.

Fulfillment: Matthew 27:41-44.

Given Gall and Vinegar to Drink

Prophecy: Psalm 69:21.

Fulfillment: John 19:28, 29.

The Purchase of the Potter's Field

Prophecy: Zechariah 11:13.

Fulfillment: Matthew 27:3-9.

Christ's Glorious Resurrection

Prophecy: Psalm 16:10; Matthew 16:21.

Fulfillment: Luke 24:34; Acts 2:31.

These and many other prophecies were placed on record many centuries before Christ, and were published to the world in both the Hebrew and the Greek language more than two hundred years prior to His birth. In this way the story of Jesus was written in advance; and behold the accumulated evidence! Such a variety of circumstances of so extraordinary a nature, predicted concerning one man by numerous prophets, all realized in Christ and in no other individual who ever lived, point Him out with irresistible evidence as the Saviour of mankind. By no possible chance could all these incidents have *merely happened* to one person. It is equally impossible to conceive that anyone could successfully have posed to meet all these conditions and specifications.

When questioned concerning His divinity, our Lord pointed to the prophecies of the Old Testament Scriptures as

supreme proof of His divine mission. "Search the Scriptures," He emphasized; "for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of Me." John 5:39. The historic reality of Christ's life is revealed by "its transcendent wonderfulness and originality," and, in the failure of all critics, both ancient and modern, to disprove the gospel story. Had it been built upon fable or fancy, the world would have found it out long ago; but its truthfulness rests upon the harmonious testimony of so many prophets and witnesses that it stands as firm and unshaken as the throne of the Eternal.

"Woe to a world that vainly tries to escape from Jesus Christ. They may deny His deity, dispute His power, disbelieve His resurrection, explain away His existence, deride Him as a phantom, insult Him as 'a spirit medium,' philosophize over Him as a myth, accept Him as a mere human teacher, misquote His words to sustain their opinions, pervert His teachings, and despise His precious blood; but when all this is done, their difficulty is not removed, for Christ the King still lives at God's right hand. 'Jesus Christ the same yesterday, today, and forever,' the Christ 'who was, who is, and who is to come,' He who had glory with His Father 'before the world was,' shame with man during His earthly pilgrimage; and who, having suffered these things, has entered 'into His glory'—that same Jesus still lives in all the majesty of His divine character, and in all the powers of an everlasting life. Herod could not kill Him, Satan could not seduce Him, death could not destroy Him, the sepulcher could not hold Him; and yet He stands forth upon the highest pinnacle of heavenly glory, proclaimed of God, acknowledged by angels, adored by saints, and feared by devils, as a living, personal Christ; rejected, crucified, exalted, glorified, and coming again in like manner as He ascended; to raise the

dead, to judge the world, to save His people, to be glorified in His saints, to crush the usurper, to destroy His foes, and to reign forever as the Lord of all."
—H. L. Hastings.

Why All This Rush?

(Continued from page 5)

somewhere in life," to "be somebody," has driven men mad, filling our institutions with the insane and the neurotic—the result of fear-filled hearts.

Tranquillity can never come to a man who is driven by fear. A fear-crazed man knows no direction, knows not where he is going, or why. Peace and purpose can give direction to life here and hereafter.

More than nineteen hundred years ago a Stranger in Galilee tried to persuade man that he should pause and rest from the scramble for what was already at hand—life. Said He: "Come unto Me, . . . and I will give you rest." Matthew 11:28. This same Jesus still pleads with men to revalue life by another standard than fear and self—trust in God, and service for others: "I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly." John 10:10, last part.

The Bible admonishes the one who feels impelled to hurry to grasp something that seems to be eluding him: "Fear ye not, stand still, and see the salvation of the Lord." Exodus 14:13.

Pause long enough to ask yourself, "What do I want of life? Where do I want to go? After this fuming and striving, this fretting and worrying—then what? Am I preparing to live, or am I living now? After all, haven't I at hand the privilege of peace?"

Yes. Echoing down the centuries, still comes the invitation: "Come unto Me, . . . and I will give you rest."

Katherine Beardsley recognized this burden of life. Her beautiful poem indicates the discipline we must practice if we would overcome fear and find the peace that is at hand for those who will choose to enjoy the fullness of life now and eternally.

"Throughout the dreary years it followed me;
I dared not look behind and face the sight
Of what I feared. Yet try with all my might,
I could not from its dreadful presence flee,
Nor find a refuge from this enemy.
The day could not alleviate my plight,
And in the lonely hours of the night
It came to fill my dreams with agony.
There came a time it was so close I knew
It was upon me. Desperate I grew,
And turned about and met it face to face;
But as I clutched at it, to hold it fast,
It vanished phantomlike. Lo, not a trace
Of it remained, and I was free at last."

Really to live the more abundant life, man must be free of fear and know where he is going. Life without direction and supervision leads but to emptiness and the grave.

"The Lord shall give thee rest from thy sorrow, and from thy fear, and from the hard bondage wherein thou wast made to serve." Isaiah 14:3. Abundant living in the truest sense of the word is within the reach of those who will accept it—without "bloodshed and trouble" to themselves and without "toil and peril" to others.

NEWSGRAMS

By BENJAMIN MAXSON

NOTES AND QUOTES FROM FAR AND NEAR

Philosophy of Materialism Failed

Declaring that the philosophy of materialism has failed, David Lawrence, editor of *The United States News*, urges that the spirit of religion be given a trial. He says: "Can we not derive from this life new forms of compensation? Can we not, while engaging in the intensities of modern economics or politics, apply the doctrine of spiritual guidance to the acts of every day? May not God be permitted to sit in the meetings of boards of directors of corporations or in the councils of labor unions—in factory and counting room? We should not refuse to try that which has been so little

tried. The world has applied the philosophy of materialism, and has encountered misery. May not the world be urged now to try the spirit of religion?"

World Suffering From Hatred

"It seems very obvious," says Robert R. Logan, magazine editor, "as we look around us that the whole world is suffering from the hatred which people direct toward other people instead of toward the envy, hypocrisy, falsehood, and greed, which, in themselves and in others, obstruct or destroy the natural sympathy of man and man."



GOD'S MAGNA CHARTA

for All NATIONS

by G. G. LOWRY

Superintendent, South India
Union Mission, Bangalore

ONE of the most precious manuscripts in the world—the Magna Charta, sealed by King John June 15, 1215—crossed the Atlantic a few months ago. Rich Americans, interested in such trophies, have purchased and taken from Europe many precious documents; but the Magna Charta is not for sale. It was, however, lent by Lincoln Cathedral for exhibition at the World's Fair in New York.

Brought by the Bishop of Lincoln of that time straight from Runnymede, the Magna Charta is almost as fresh today as when it was written on sheepskin with a goose quill dipped in ink. There is no signature, for the simple reason that good King John could not write his name! Instead of the king's signature, is a great seal, attached to the charter of liberty by a ribbon. This interesting and important document was, no doubt, seen by many thousands of people who visited the World's Fair this past year, and is now on view in the Library of Congress at Washington, D. C.

Probably no other human document affected history as has the Magna Charta. Its principles are embodied in the laws obtaining wherever the British flag is flown. And when the Pilgrim Fathers, in search of a home where they could enjoy political freedom and religious liberty, crossed to the New World, they brought its principles across with them. Later, these were embodied in the American Constitution.

As the principles of the Magna Charta have become the basis of constitutions and laws governing vast multitudes of people in the earth, so the Bible, the word of God, the Magna Charta of the Christian world, stands like a great statue of liberty crowned with light and glory, sending forth its rays to men and women in darkness in all lands. Wherever it is read, wherever its principles are allowed to find a lodging place in human hearts, lives are changed; joy, peace, and happiness displace superstition, dread, and fear.

Lives that have been wasted and wrecked through vice and evil habits

have been reclaimed, renovated, made pure and clean through the purifying power of the word of God. In India, as in other lands, hundreds and thousands of fear-benighted souls, reared in heathen darkness and superstition, have been raised from hopeless despair to a living, joyful hope. Their rude homes, formerly filthy and vermin-infested, have been made clean and attractive. The future, once so dark and gloomy, now glows with the radiant colors of the sunrise of a new day. What a wonderful miracle has been wrought for such people through the power and influence of this blessed Book!

Thankful for the Light

Well do I remember sitting, a few years ago, at the bedside of a poor Indian man who was dying of cholera. He had but recently become a Christian; but his life had been changed. He had come to love the study of the word of God, and he had a great desire to tell others of the great blessing that it had brought into his life. But, alas, he was

One of the two British Museum copies of the Magna Charta sealed by King John.



suddenly stricken with that dread disease, and in a few hours his eyes would close in death. Gripping my hand, he told me he was not afraid to die. Said he: "A few months ago, if this experience had come to me I should have been without hope. Death would have been to me a leap in the dark. I feel I should have been eternally lost. How happy I am in this trying hour for the message of hope and cheer the Bible has brought to me! The hope of a part in the resurrection of the just at the coming of the Lord and a home in the earth made new are so precious to me!"

Oh yes, the blessed Bible, the Magna Charta for the Christian, not only cheers us in this life, but, when we come to the dark hour, when the final good-by to all things earthly must be said, it brings untold comfort and consolation.

Bible Brings Joy to a Heathen Boy

Not long ago I had a letter from a Christian in India who was born a heathen, but who became a Christian through reading the Bible. He tells of his joy at finding Christ. Listen to what he says:

"After reading the Bible in the mission school, I wished very much to be a Christian. But when I spoke of this to my people they hated me. Even my mother turned against me, and sent me out of my home. While undergoing this persecution, the words of Jesus greatly comforted me: 'Fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul: but rather fear Him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.' In spite of all that they did against me, I felt that the Lord was calling me. My life was completely changed. The things that I formerly loved most dearly I now began to hate.

"After I told my relatives of the great joy and peace that had come into my life, they ceased their persecution, and became more kind to me. Eventually the barriers between us were all broken down, and today, thank God and Jesus Christ, my brothers, my uncle, and, last of all, my dear old mother have all ac-

(Continued on page 15)

Was MEXICO COVERED by the FLOOD?



Ancient stone steps and ornamentation at San Juan, Teotihuacan.

by BENJAMIN FRANKLIN ALLEN

ALL THROUGH the written accounts and pictured histories of Mexico and Central America there is a system of four "suns," or epochs, or deities, in the creation of the earth and its history. These accounts can be read either to the right or to the left, and authorities differ on this. Reading one way, the first "suns" created all things. This seems to be the logical direction to go, therefore we go on.

Then the other "suns" figure in the degradation and destruction of the created things. The second "sun" destroys by fire, and the third, when he was dying, swept the earth with a mighty wind. The last, the "sun of water," was extinguished, which produced the Deluge. See "The Aztecs," by Biart, pages 108, 109, 118, 119.

On the plains of Teotihuacan still remain the ruins of two temples, one to the origin of the sun, and one to the origin of the moon. The legend suggests that the fires of the moon had been dimmed and extinguished.

The Record in Guatemala

An ancient book of Guatemala, the "Popol Vuh," is in four divisions. Book I opens with an account of creation. Over the earth "brooded" the Creator, called the "Former." "All was silent, tranquil, and without motion." All was "without form and void." The Creator seems to have acted with the co-operation and counsel of an assistant known as Gucumatz, which is the name the Quiches had for the Quetzalcoatl of the Aztecs.

"They took counsel, and the dawn appeared. Trees and herbs sprouted. Animals now appeared, and birds. But as yet man was not. The gods wished to form man in their own image, as the animals knew not how to reverence them. They fashioned them first of clay,

but these men were stiff-necked. They talked, but lacked understanding and stability."

"Then man was created of wood and resin. But his lack of reverence and his depraved life soon incurred the displeasure of the gods. A great Flood, or a rain of hot resin and a mighty earthquake, destroyed or drowned them, as the larger birds tore at them. There was a noise as of a great fire above their heads. They ran here and there in despair. They climbed the roofs of houses, but the houses crumbled and fell. They tried to mount the tops of the trees, but the trees hurled them from them. They sought refuge in the caverns, but the caverns closed before them, and they all perished. A few, however, became apes."

We recall another man-to-ape legend from Africa. But the reverse, the ape-to-man theory, which seems to have swallowed up most of present-day philosophy, does not show up anywhere among the pre-Flood myths of creation. It has

no roots whatever in "the cradle of the race."

Book III opens with another council to create man. The Creator made four perfect men from white and yellow maize. These men were large and strong. They gave the gods thanks, and knew much. One of the gods, however, complained that these men were too perfect. They knew too much. Therefore they made them partially blind, so that they could see only a portion of the earth. They were put to sleep, and four women were made who became their wives. These eight people (mark the number) then made a long journey across or through a great ocean, being miraculously saved. They began to people the earth, but finally were given languages which prevented them from understanding each other. Then each tribe was assigned a certain portion of the earth in which to dwell. See "Magic and Mysteries of Mexico," by Spence, pages 240, 241, 248; and "Beginnings of History," by Francois Lenormant, pages 469-473. Read both references.

The larger part of this Mayan book is taken up with certain sons of the Creator who strove in a great war in heaven



Coming NEXT WEEK

in addition to the regular features:

Prophecy Names a Conqueror	W. A. Spicer
Two Neglected Books	D. H. Kress, M. D.
Road Map of the Future	Carlyle B. Haynes
"I Will Come Again"	Roy F. Cottrell
Without Christ—Without Hope	Robert H. Pierson
Flood Folklore of American Indians	Benjamin F. Allen
The Hope of the World	Ernest Lloyd

and earth to cast out and subdue the leader of evil and his followers. This myth and many others throughout the world deal extensively with what Bible students understand as the Creator's controversy with Satan. Satan causes a rebellion in heaven, and he and his followers are cast out to the earth finally. This conflict is often mingled somewhat with the Flood legends.

It is little wonder that, when missionaries go to the far-off primitive peoples and show them the clear light of the Bible on the origin of evil and this great controversy, they so readily grasp it. For this controversy as described among the Aztec deities, see "The Aztecs," by Biart, pages 110, 112-115.

Several paintings of the Flood have been found in Mexico and Central America among the Aztecs, the Uriztecs, the Zapotecs, the Tlascalans, and the Michoacans. Each of these is largely in story form, like our serial cartoons today. They are much like the frescoes in China, and like the carving on the ancient monument to the Deluge and the memorial coins of the town of Apamea in Asia Minor. But they are much more elaborate than any of these. They should all now be freshly studied from these new viewpoints.

Mountains Sank Under Waters

"Now, the water was calm forty-nine years, plus twelve, and men lived a third and fourth time. [Three or four times longer than afterward?] When sun Nahui-atl came, four hundred years had gone by, plus two centuries, plus seventy-five years.

"Then all men were lost and drowned, and found themselves changed into fishes. The sky approached the water. In a single day everything was lost, the day Nahui-Xochitl consumed all flesh. *The mountains were even plunged beneath the water* [suggesting sudden land sinking]. Now, at the end of the year, the god Titlacohuan had warned Nata and his wife Nena, saying: 'Make no more wine of agave, but set to work to hollow out a great bald cypress, and you will go into it when the water begins to rise toward the sky, in the month of Tozontli.' Then they went into it, and when the god had shut the door of it, he said: 'Thou shalt eat but one single sheaf of maize, and thy wife one also.'

"But as soon as they had finished, they went out of that place; for the water remained calm, for the wood no longer stirred it up; and opening it, they began to see fishes. They then lighted some fire by rubbing pieces of wood together, and they broiled some of the fishes." See "Beginnings of History," by Lenormant, pages 510-513.

Bear in mind that these legends were not inspired by the entrance of the Bible

into those lands, for they originated long before the Book entered. No one who takes the pains to look into the remoteness of their origin brings that charge. Not one legend or tablet of the Flood in all the world contains a single reference to the Bible. Not even Bible skeptics charge that, but some try to charge the reverse—especially that the Bible Flood story came from the Babylonian Flood legend. But one reading, or attempted reading, of that scrambled and garbled legend will cure any fair-minded person of that idea. It cannot be compared with the coherent, consistent, dignified Genesis account.

The great native Toltec historian, Fernando de Alva Ixtlilxochitl, was descended from the ancient Tezenco kings. He searched out the most ancient native records, and wrote of the most remote times. The following is from him:

"It is found in the histories of the Toltecs that this age and the first world, as they call it, lasted one thousand seven hundred sixteen years; that men were

POINTED

Paragraphs

ON THE WORLD CRISIS

by MURL VANCE

SOUTH POLE CLAIMANTS

Richard E. Byrd is again exploring around the South Pole. This time he left with secret orders from the White House that may have considerable bearing upon the counter claims of Britain, France, Germany, Norway, and Argentina to the same area. No one wants or can use the territory around the South Pole at present; but each country is afraid that the other may find something valuable there.

DIFFICULTIES OF WAR

The problem of maintaining an army is indeed a stupendous one. It takes about three thousand tons of food daily to feed a million men at war, and about five to ten times that tonnage in ammunition and supplies to keep them shooting. If nations would spend upon cultural improvements the amount of money they waste in their work of destruction, they would enjoy unparalleled prosperity.

YOUTH TURNS PESSIMISTIC

American youth, usually bubbling over with hope and plans for the future, have taken on a decidedly pessimistic attitude, according to a survey made by the Y. M. C. A. of New York City. Four fifths of the thousands of young men and young women of all races and classes who were interviewed declared that they believed that hard work and ability no longer lead to success.

☞ To strengthen U. S. claims upon the antarctic region, Admiral

☞ The problem of maintaining an army is indeed a stupendous

☞ American youth, usually bubbling over with hope and plans for the

destroyed by tremendous rains and lightning from the sky, and even all the land, without the exception of anything, and the highest mountains, were covered up and submerged in water fifteen cubits; and here they add other fables of how men came to multiply from the few who escaped from this destruction in a 'top-tilipetlocali,' which nearly signifies a closed chest; and how, after men had multiplied, they erected a very high 'zacuali,' which is today a tower of great height, in order to take refuge should a second world be destroyed. Presently their languages were confused, and, not being able to understand each other, they went to different parts of the earth.

"The Toltecs, consisting of seven friends and their wives, who could understand the same language, came to these parts, having first passed great land and seas, having lived in caves, and having endured great hardships in order to reach this land; they wandered one hundred four years through different parts of the world before they reached Hue Hue Tlapalan, which was in Tecpatl, five hundred twenty years after the Flood." See "Antiquities of Mexico," by Edward King, vol. 9, pp. 321, 322, quoting Ixtlilxochitl's "Relaciones;" "Atlantis," by Ignatius Donnelly, pages 103, 104; and "Voyages, Relations, and Memories of America," by Ternaux-Compans, vol. 12, p. 1 and following.

Mexican and Bible Chronology

The 1,716 years from creation to the Flood, which is only sixty years more than is given in Bishop Ussher's chronology of the Bible, may seem striking. Its end was called the "second sun." This historian used the "sun of water" first, which we ascribe to the Flood and to the extinction of the moon at that time, which is the order generally used.

As our personal preference in chronology is that of the Septuagint, which dates the Flood at 3246 B. C., while the Ussher date is 2349 B. C., this sixty years does not hold any marked significance to us. However, the matter is not settled, as another version of the Septuagint gives 3600 B. C. as the date of the Flood. The Septuagint places 2,262 years between creation and the Flood, the Ussher chronology 1,656 years, a difference of 606 years. See "The Chronology of the Bible," by Dr. Harry Rimmer.

These 1,716 years, regardless of where they belong, have recently received marvelous corroboration by Palacios in his book on Mexican chronology. He reads these years, and many other periods, from the carved stones and sculptured temples and monuments. But he places the four "suns" the other way around from the way Fernando Ixtlilxochitl placed them. He places them in the order we have placed them, with the "sun

of water" as the Flood, the last. But, through some difficulty not yet overcome, this brings the Flood up to within a few centuries B.C. This has caused many historians to reverse it back to the order as used by Fernando Ixtlilxochitl. The matter is still under discussion. See "The Stone of the Sun and the First Chapter 4, the History of Mexico," by Palacios, pages 35-37.

Thus we find by far the most striking details of the Flood in Mexico and Central America. But in our next article we shall find the Flood legends of the North American Indians fully as amazing in their details and revelations.

Better Times Ahead

(Continued from page 7)

His disciples He said: "Behold My hands and My feet, that it is I Myself: handle Me, and see; for a spirit hath not flesh and bones, as ye see Me have." Luke 24:39. From this it appears that in the new-earth kingdom there will be real beings with real bodies. Says the apostle Paul: "Behold, I show you a mystery; We shall not all sleep [die], but we shall all be changed, in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we [the living] shall be changed. For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality." 1 Corinthians 15:51-53. For Christ "shall change our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto His glorious body." Philippians 3:21.

Never again shall anyone become physically unfit. No one shall ever become blind, deaf, or dumb, nor in any other way crippled or deformed. No one will be disappointed in the new earth inheritance. According to Isaiah 65:17-21, each one will own his own home, and there will be an ideal climate, good neighbors, no sickness or death, and every cause for tears wiped away forever. Who would not want to be there?

But who will be permitted to enter that land? Only those who have made the necessary preparation will be admitted. "If ye be Christ's, then are ye . . . heirs." Galatians 3:29. And again: "Ye must be born again;" "Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God." John 3:7, 3.

Do not permit yourself to be deceived into believing that you can gain entrance into this beautiful homeland by performing a few good works or refraining from certain evil practices of the world around you. Let me tell you, my friend, that if that is your plan, you will meet with a great disappointment. You must be born again. You must prove your right of entry by your new-birth certificate, writ-

ten in the blood of Jesus Christ. No counterfeit will do; your papers must be genuine, stating that you are in deed and in truth a child of the king. Then and then only can you enter. Thanks be to God, eternal life is a gift of God through Jesus Christ our Lord. It is awaiting your demand and reception.

The Coming Government

(Continued from page 6)

Rome would not be followed by another great power that would rise to destroy it and take its place, as had been the case with Babylon, Medo-Persia, and Greece. No, Rome was to be divided into ten divisions, just as the toes of the human figure divide the feet into ten divisions.

Foretold nearly a thousand years before it came to pass, nevertheless this remarkable prediction was exactly fulfilled. Rome was not succeeded by another world empire. It was divided into ten parts.

The prophecy was given some six hundred years before Christ. Between 351 and 476 after Christ the great world empire of Rome was divided into exactly ten kingdoms. These were the Alemanni (Germany), the Franks (France), the Burgundians (Switzerland), the Suevi (Portugal), the Vandals (who have been destroyed), the Anglo-Saxons (England), the Visigoths (Spain), the Ostrogoths (who have been destroyed), the Heruli (who also have been destroyed), and the Lombards (Italy).

These are the ten kingdoms that were represented by the ten toes of the great image. They include the great nations of Europe today. And it is true, just as the prophecy said it would be, that some of these kingdoms are strong and some of them are weak.

The prophet then spoke of efforts to be made to unite these broken pieces of the Roman Empire into one world power again, and declared that such efforts would fail. His words are, "They shall not cleave one to another." Daniel 2:43.

These seven words have proved stronger than all the legions of the

SIGNS OF THE TIMES

Advocating a return to the simple gospel of Christ, and a preparation for His imminent second appearing

EDITOR . . . ARTHUR S. MAXWELL

RATES in U. S. A.: Single copy, one year . . . \$1.50
Clubs of five or more to one address, each . . . 1.25
To Canada and other countries taking extra postage:
Single copy, one year . . . \$2.00
Clubs of five or more to one address, each . . . 1.50

Please make all checks and money orders payable to "Signs of the Times," Mountain View, California.
In requesting change of address, please give both old and new address.

No papers are sent except on paid subscriptions, so persons receiving the "Signs of the Times" without having subscribed may feel perfectly free to accept it. J. R. FERREN, Circulation Manager.

mightiest armies ever gathered together in the world.

Look at the record. In the eighth century Charlemagne made an attempt to unite the divisions of the ancient Roman Empire. He found that it could not be done.

The attempt was repeated in the sixteenth century by Charles V of Spain. He failed. In the latter part of the seventeenth and the first part of the eighteenth century, Louis XIV of France tried the same thing. And he failed.

Perhaps the greatest, and what appeared for a time to be the most successful attempt to bring all the divided parts of the ancient Roman Empire under one rule, was made during the first part of the nineteenth century by Napoleon Bonaparte. But all the wisdom of this brilliant military genius, all his shrewdness and ingenuity, all his great knowledge of military tactics, and all the strength of his mighty legions, were not sufficient to break the power of these seven short words of Scripture.

God had declared that "they shall not cleave one to another;" and, while he did not realize it, it was nevertheless true that Napoleon was fighting not merely against the armies of men, but against the word of God, and his great dream of world empire came to an end at Waterloo. God had spoken, and "the Scripture cannot be broken;" "the word of our God shall stand forever." John 10:35; Isaiah 40:8.

Since the Napoleonic Wars another dream of world empire was shattered against the rock of this impregnable scripture, when the attempt of Wilhelm II of Germany was brought to an end by the World War.

There are those who believe that we are now in the process of another attempt to gain world dominion. If that is the case, we can settle it now, on the basis of this old prophecy, that this, too, is bound to be shattered.

This remarkable prophecy of Daniel 2, given so many centuries ago, is brought to a close with these significant words: "In the days of these kings shall the God

FILL IN . . . MAIL TODAY

Date _____

Circulation Dept., PACIFIC PRESS
Mountain View, California

PLEASE send the SIGNS OF THE TIMES for one year to the following address. I enclose \$1.50 (\$2.00 in Canada and foreign).

Name _____

Address _____

of heaven set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed." Verse 44.

This is the most important part of this entire line of prophecy. Clearly this prediction brings us to the solemn conclusion that in the days of the modern nations of Europe the God of heaven is to establish His everlasting kingdom—the kingdom of Christ.

There is no mistake here. Just as surely as Medo-Persia followed Babylon, as Greece followed Medo-Persia, as Rome followed Greece, and as the modern nations of Europe followed the empire of Rome, just so surely will these present nations be followed in the very near future by the kingdom of God, that great kingdom of peace which shall extend from one end of the earth to the other.

The time of the coming of Christ is near at hand. The greatest event of all the ages of human history, that which will close human history itself, is about to take place. All the world is about to be placed under one sovereign. All earthly kingdoms are about to pass out of existence forever.

Are you prepared to live in the kingdom that is to come? Have you made intelligent and adequate preparations for this? Citizenship is based upon renouncing the world, and accepting, even now, the Lord Jesus Christ.

Perhaps you listened in on that memorable and God-honoring coronation ceremony when George VI of England ascended his father's throne. You may remember that the Archbishop of Canterbury, before placing the crown upon the monarch's head, addressed himself to the assembled peers, and said: "Sirs, I present to you George, your rightful king. Are you ready to pay homage?" Upon receiving an affirmative reply, he advanced in impressive silence to the kneeling king, and placed on his brow the crown of the empire. It remained for those peers, who voiced their assent to his being accorded that lofty office, to spend the rest of their days living out all that was implied in that one act of coronation.

It is now my holy and priceless privilege to say to you, "Dear friend, I present to you your rightful Lord, Jesus Christ. Are you now ready to pay Him homage and yield allegiance?"

If you are, then you will have performed the noblest act of your life, as you personally "bring forth the royal diadem, and crown Him Lord of all."

God's Magna Charta

(Continued from page 11)

accepted Christ. Through the mercy of the Lord a mission school has now been established in the village where I was born, and I am very happy."

Through the efforts of God-fearing

men and women working through the British and Foreign Bible Society and the American Bible Society, the Bible is now available in nearly all the languages in the earth. A secretary of the British and Foreign Bible Society, speaking recently in Rangoon, Burma, said that in China 13,000,000 copies of the Bible had been sold by colporteurs, and that it was the most widely read book in that country.

In the same city a Buddhist lawyer—a prominent man in Rangoon—told a mis-

sionary that he always keeps a Bible in his desk, and that he makes a practice of reading it at least one hour each day.

The Bible has good news for all nations. It is reported that the Bible societies are now circulating the Bible in one thousand languages. What a volume of good news these Bibles have carried to all nations! What happiness and peace, good will and high morals, have come to those who have accepted as their rule of life the principles of the great Magna Charta!

BOOKS THAT BUILD

Use the Coupon--Save 25c a Copy

OLD HOMESTEAD TALES

By NEIL WAYNE NORTHEY

Out in the Central West section of the United States is the "Old Homestead," occupied not only by Farmer Smith and his family, but by many little feathered and furry wild folk. This is the setting for the stories in four very interesting books for the youth.

Vol. 1. The Bluebirds and Their Neighbors

"The Bluebirds and Their Neighbors" is the story of the more trustful Little Wild Creatures that prefer to live near the habitations of man. It is the story of the Bluebirds who always came

back to the Old Homestead to live during the summer, and of the Feathered Friends and the Furry Friends who were their neighbors. You will learn to love them all.

Vol. 2. The Mallards and Their Neighbors

In this book is told the story of the Little Wild Creatures that prefer to live near water. It is the story of the Mallards, who lived at the Duck Pond on the Old Homestead, and of the Feathered Friends and Furry Friends who were their

neighbors at the Duck Pond and along Little River. While flying northward, Mr. Mallard was shot in the wing, and that was why the Mallards stopped on the Old Homestead. Some interesting things happened while they were there.

Vol. 3. Paddletail the Beaver and His Neighbors

Near the Old Homestead is the Black Forest, and it is here, on Little River, that Paddletail the Beaver and Mrs. Paddletail had built their home the preceding fall. After completing the dam,

Paddletail starts out to see if he can find a suitable location for a new home, and at the same time to visit his neighbors. Silver Paddletail got lost. Was she ever found?

Vol. 4. Wild Creatures in Winter

When Jack Frost, the son of Old Man Winter, appears with his paintbrush, it is time for Farmer Smith and all the Little Wild Creatures to get ready for the Merry Little Snowflakes.

Each book is well illustrated with specially pre-

pared drawings, some of the illustrations being in colors of nature.

Cloth binding, per volume \$1.25

The complete set, boxed 5.00

For information write to our representative or to

PACIFIC PRESS PUBLISHING ASSOCIATION, Mountain View, California

SAVE 25c--USE THIS COUPON

Good Until March 31, 1940

This coupon is good for twenty-five (25) cents toward payment for any one of these books. In other words, this coupon and one dollar buys the book you select. Check the book you want, sign your name, enclose one dollar.

- ☐ The Bluebirds and Their Neighbors
- ☐ The Mallards and Their Neighbors
- ☐ Paddletail the Beaver and His Neighbors
- ☐ Wild Creatures in Winter

My name is _____

My address is _____



*"Flowers to re-
mind them that
God still lives."*

PUBLISHERS' PHOTO

FLOWERS AT THE MARKET

by ELVA ZACHRISON

A FRIEND in one of the small neutral countries of northern Europe writes that the air is full of wars and rumors of wars. Not only on the radio, but in all conversation as well, the great theme is "*kriget*." On the waters near this friend's home, menacing battleships sometimes appear, and the air overhead is not entirely free from the powerful bombers of their quarrelsome neighbors.

The peace-loving citizens are filled, not with confidence and hope, but with fear—fear of destruction of home, property, and even of life itself.

Though the letter deals much with items of war, there is a bright spot near its close; they are going to the market to buy provisions—and flowers. Flowers to remind them that God still lives, that beyond the immediate atmosphere of destruction and death the God of creation and resurrection still rules; flowers to make them forget, for a moment, war and danger, and to speak to their hearts confidence and hope and cheer.

What a travesty that in a world God originally created "very good," flowers should be the exception, war the rule!

that the brief joy in the presence of flowers should ever be overshadowed and neutralized by deep anxiety and dark forebodings! Flowers are the heritage of mankind; so are dream homes and life and love and joy and peace. These things were given man in the beginning; but hatred, fear, and sin, which often express themselves in the diabolical machinations of war, God did not originate or give to man. "An enemy hath done this."

The earth still yields her bounty, though the heart of man is wicked, though the instruments of warfare devastate its fair surface, though the weapons of destruction waste countless tons of provisions that were harvested to feed the children of men.

Jesus came—thank God for that—to heal the plague, to blot out the dark record of war and hatred and sin, to balance the books of heaven for humanity, that everyone who believes on Him might be saved eternally. Then God's original plan, interrupted by the dark centuries of sin, will meet its fruition.

There is coming a time when the

wickedness of the wicked will have spent itself, when the cup of iniquity will be full, and God Himself shall arise to execute judgment.

Yes, there is coming a time when the earth shall be filled, not with violence and bloodshed and war, but "with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea." Habakkuk 2: 14. Today the hearts of men are filled with fear. With desperate anxiety they are "looking after those things which are coming on the earth;" but those who know and trust the God of heaven can with confidence look forward to a time when flowers will again flourish, not only at the market, but in fascinating profusion all over the earth's surface. Even "the desert shall rejoice, and blossom as the rose." Isaiah 35:1. Then homes, beautiful and perfect homes, will be built without fear of destruction. Then life, everlasting life, will be lived without fear or possibility of death. Then the graces of love and joy and peace in the hearts of redeemed humanity will match the luxuriant landscape and the fragrant air.