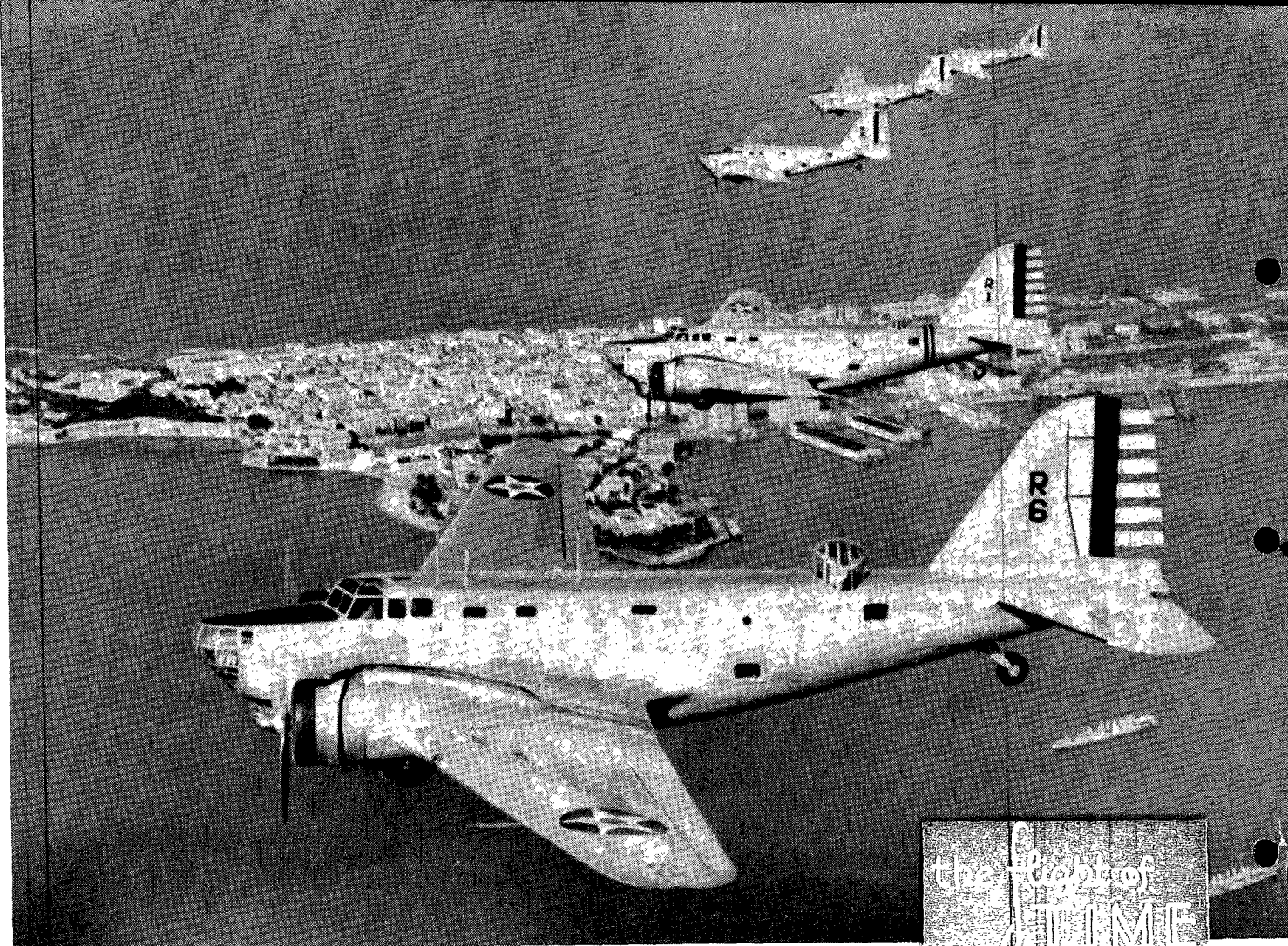


SIGNS OF THE TIMES



LOOKING FORWARD... See page 2

January 7, 1941



INTERNATIONAL

U. S. bombers roaring over Puerto Rico in maneuvers designed to strengthen the defenses of the Panama Canal.

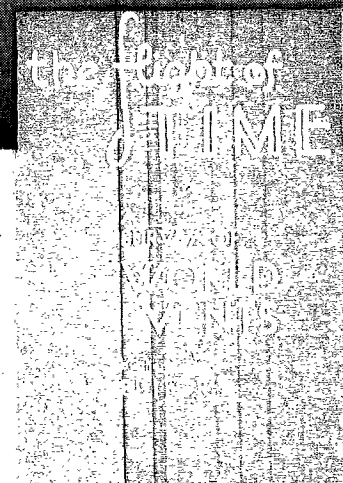
LOOKING FORWARD

STUPENDOUS as have been the happenings of 1940, there is every reason to anticipate that the unfolding of events through the coming year may be even more amazing.

A year ago France was still one of the world's Great Powers, with her Maginot line intact and her army described as invincible. A year ago Denmark and

Norway, Holland and Belgium, were still free and unviolated. A year ago the people of England had never seen a bombing plane in action.

But in one short year the map of Europe has been changed almost beyond recognition. With awful suddenness the way of life of millions has been abruptly altered. Vast populations have lost their freedom, even their most elemental rights, as tyranny, cruel and ruthless, has swept over them like an avalanche.



As the war moves east and south, these Arab warriors, incorporated in the British Army, may soon be playing an important role.

INTERNATIONAL



Hundreds of cities, towns, and villages which a year ago were peaceful and prosperous are now heaps of ruins. Scores of honored monuments, unexampled for beauty and hoary with age, now lie buried in pathetic debris, blasted beyond repair.

Innumerable passenger liners, cargo boats, tankers, and fishing vessels which a year ago were proudly sailing the seven seas now lie as helpless hulks on the ocean floor.

Unnumbered thousands of men and women, and little children too, who were alive and happy just a year ago are now in their graves, their lives suddenly cut short by the horrible engines of death that modern war lets loose. Hundreds of thousands more are homeless and penniless, having lost everything they had in the great bombing raids.

All this in one short year. All this and

SIGNS of the TIMES

more, for it would take a hundred books to record all the tragedies of these twelve terrible months, most of them known alone to God.

Looking forward, what dare we hope for the future? As the New Year dawns, the two mightiest antagonists are still strong and highly resolved to battle on to a decision. And what must this mean in blasted homes and ruined lives before another year is past? What must it mean of ruin and bankruptcy, famine and suffering, not only in the actual war zones but all the world around?

Last year, the war that had begun in Poland swept over three continents. Who can tell how much farther it will spread? This coming year, says *The Christian Century*, "the whole world will probably be convulsed as never before in history." Certainly the destiny of the British Empire, of Germany, of Italy, of Japan, indeed of all Europe and Asia, will be at stake all through these momentous days and months that lie ahead. And the forces now in action are so gigantic, the pressure on human beings so terrific, that it would seem that something or somebody is bound to crack soon. Humanity, hardened as it is to the sights and sounds of war, cannot stand this fearful strain much longer.

We must be prepared, in mind and heart, for whatever the future may hold. We shall need all the fortitude that comes from Christian faith to meet the issues of these dark and evil days. As historical events of the first magnitude thunder upon the shores of time, our resolution and our courage will have to be "of the quality of the granite coast."

More than ever, too, we shall need the inspiration that comes from the supreme Christian hope. Death and destruction may spread and multiply, and all the things we have trusted and prized dissolve in ruin about us, yet the certainty that Christ is coming soon to end this reign of evil, and bring in the glorious era of everlasting peace that He has promised, will remain the comfort and inspiration of His people.

We have no doubt but that the events of the coming year will reveal more clearly than ever the full meaning of the last prophetic words of Scripture as yet unfulfilled. The final waymarks to the kingdom will begin to glow with radiance as the headlights of passing events illumine them. And when we see these things, we shall know with added surety that He is near, "even at the doors."

OUR COVER PICTURE

Sailing toward the New Year is the theme of this week's cover picture. There is every indication that the weather will be stormy, the sea rough.



AS MONTH after month the war drags on, it is becoming increasingly apparent that this is not merely a conflict between nations, but another terrible phase of the agelong struggle between the powers of darkness and the legions of light. Not only are great empires fighting to a finish, but, behind the headlines, Christianity and paganism are likewise locked in no less deadly combat.

It would seem indeed as though satanic agencies are taking advantage of this colossal international struggle to deal the most savage blows to Christian institutions and Christian faith.

One of the most significant news items coming out of this furious holocaust has been the number of churches destroyed. Up to November 7 last, no less than 32 London churches had been completely wrecked, 47 seriously damaged, and 500 others partially damaged. All the missions of that great philanthropic agency, the London City Mission, have been blasted into heaps of rubble.

In the city of Liverpool not only has the beautiful new Anglican Cathedral been heavily bombed, but 33 other churches have sustained serious injury.

In the city of Coventry the old cathedral and many another church vanished overnight. Similar destruction has been visited upon cathedrals, churches, chapels, and missions all over the country, as though the devil himself was endeavoring to destroy the true source of England's greatness. Perhaps churches have

been reckoned "military objectives" in a sense we had not dreamed. Certainly it gives point to the boast of the modern pagan conqueror that he would tear up Christianity "root and branch and annihilate it." (*The Voice of Destruction*, by Hermann Rauschning, page 49.)

But while powerful pagan forces can destroy church buildings, they cannot destroy the church, and at such a time as this Christians everywhere may well take fresh courage from the assurance of Christ: "The gates of hell shall not prevail against it." Matthew 16:18. Dr. Moffatt renders this verse in his modern translation of the Bible: "The powers of Hades shall not succeed against it." It is a comforting word just now.

The church of Christ is founded upon a Rock which cannot be overthrown. The floods of wickedness may rise around it, the tempests of hatred may beat upon it to the very limit of their fury, yet it shall stand. In His own wonderful way God will protect His cause and His people till the strife is over and the victory won.

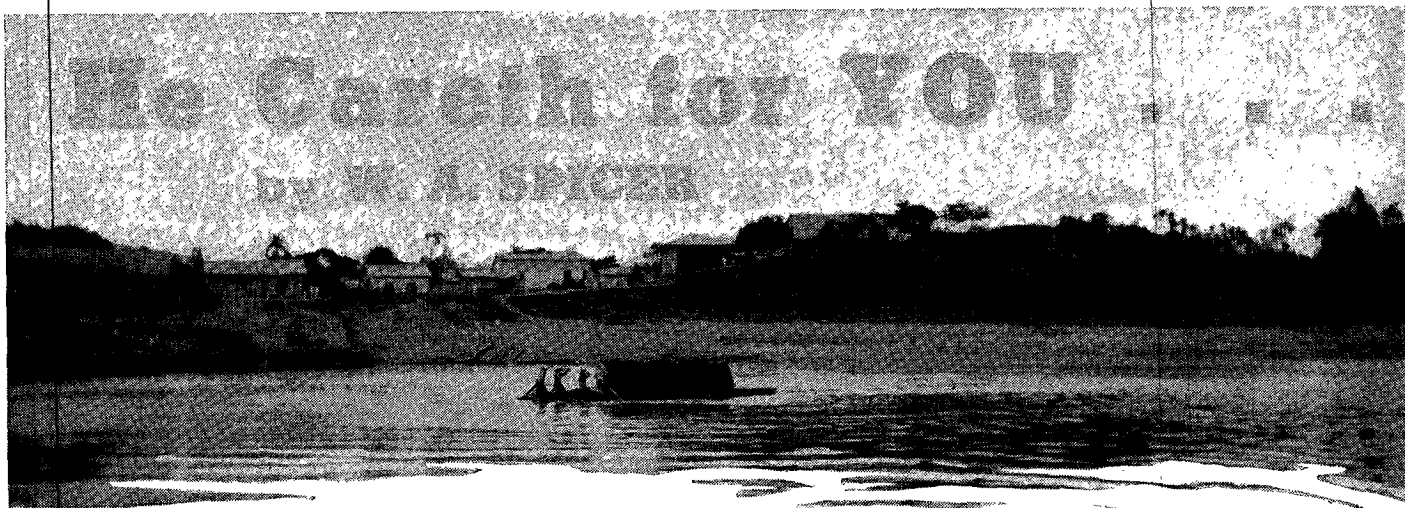
There may be lessons to be learned, of course, out of all this suffering and catastrophe. Perhaps God wants us to realize that there is a difference between church buildings and the church. Perhaps we have put too much confidence in bricks and mortar, in imposing steeples, marble baptistries, and well-carved pulpits. Perhaps He would have us remember that the membership of the church, its spiritual needs and development, are of more importance in His sight than the many material phases of church life and organization upon which we have placed so much emphasis.

An indication that some such lessons

(Continued on page 14)

Scene in a London "underground" shelter during an air raid. Tens of thousands are compelled to take their rest in this manner as a result of the "terror by night."





Amazing Providential Deliverances Prove God's Promise

Gospel workers, using boats or canoes, reach even the smallest settlements on the Amazon.

IT is a depressing thing to be in trouble and to feel that no one cares. But people do care, more than we often think. And above all,—infinitely more than all,—in heaven there is a loving Father who cares; and He can do something about it. The living God who notes the sparrow's fall is not up in heaven doing nothing while the least of His children is in trial or suffering here below.

He has so many angels that He can send them to help and comfort. We are not alone. By the ministry of God's care we are living close to heaven all the time, even though we may at times forget it. We are sometimes discouraged, I fear, like the African boy teacher, Stephen, beyond the Zambezi River. He told us of being sent into the Pemba district to start out-school work:

"I was all alone; and for several days was quite discouraged. But one night, as I was praying, God revealed to me that I was not alone at all. He was with me. I was very happy. Next day I called the people to come and just sing. Almost all the heathen village came. They wanted me to continue singing all night. I could not send them away. In a few days there were one hundred converted, and they wanted to build a house for the living God."

Many years ago on the island of Trinidad I heard the wife of one of our missionaries singing:

"Let not your heart be troubled,
His tender word I hear,
And resting on His goodness,
I lose my doubts and fears;
Though by the path He leadeth
But one step I may see:
His eye is on the sparrow,
And I know He watches me."

It was a new song to me then, but I have since heard people singing it, I

think, in every continent. Ask the missionaries, and they will tell you that Christ is keeping the promise, "Go ye; . . . and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world."

The footprints of the angels are found on every shore. Connected with a Mission Board, it has been my work to follow the mission trails these forty years, having been somewhere out of this country every year of the forty, except two or three. Rarely has a trip been taken without someone's telling me a story of angel ministry or of such ordering of events as to make it plain that Providence was directly at work.

Through Peril on the Amazon

While sitting here getting ready to put down on paper some of these experiences, there comes in from far Brazil a story of God's care that I never heard before. Colporteur leader Culpepper, who is cheering on a little army of book evangelists in that great land, tells the story. Brazil, in area, is about the size of the United States. It is a land of many rivers. One marvels at the number of streams rolling to the sea. Greatest of all is the Amazon. Evidently the angels know that a colporteur needs care on such a flood of great waters. Our reporter says:

"After a very hot day of canvassing for his book, rowing his canoe down the Amazon River from plantation to plantation, colporteur Francisco Maciel came to a humble cottage and soon sold another book to the riverside dweller who was hungry for gospel truth.

"Colporteurlike, he asked the man, 'How far is it to the next house?' and 'What is the name of the family?' The name was given, and he was told that it was about two hours downstream to this next home. Colporteur Francisco then

got into his canoe, but as he was tired, he thought he would let his canoe float downstream for a time while he rested. His last customer called to him from a distance and said: 'Be very careful. Don't for anything let your canoe go too near the dangerous rocky rapids which are about one hour from here. Several people have been drowned there, and their canoes with their belongings hurled to the bottom of the angry river. Watch carefully, and, when you arrive at the curve in the river, row across to the opposite side, where you will be free from the danger of the rapids.'

"But as he was very tired because of a strenuous day's work, Francisco rested peacefully while his canoe floated, and soon he fell into a deep sleep, which lasted more than an hour. Suddenly he was awakened by men calling excitedly from another canoe. He asked them what they wanted. They responded, 'We have watched your canoe from the other side of the river. We saw it go into and through the rapids. We expected that your canoe would be hurled under and never seen again. How did such a miracle ever happen? We have known of some who tried to steer their canoes through the rapids, but all met death. And here you did nothing, even slept, while your canoe went through the dangerous rapids. We have never heard of such a thing, and would not believe it, had we not seen it with our own eyes.'

"Then Francisco asked, 'Do you know Jesus?' 'No,' they answered, 'we have only heard something of Him. Are you Jesus?' 'No, but I am His child. Evidently I have been protected by His unseen angels. I always trust Him, because He said, 'When thou passest through the waters, I will be with thee; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow thee.' Isaiah 43:2. I have come

to tell you of Jesus and His saving power.' Soon colporteur Francisco sold a book entitled, *Vida de Jesús (The Life of Jesus)*. This man and others are now interested in the truth about Jesus, and in what prophecy teaches of His coming again."

The Voice to the Chinese Girl

We would hear many more stories of manifest angel intervention if people were not timid about telling experiences calling attention to themselves. Usually it is left for some friend to pass on the story. In China's far west a Chinese girl told me a wonderful story, with apologies for even mentioning it.

"Don't think that I have an idea that the Lord would pay any special attention to me," she said. "I would not have you think that I amount to anything."

The young woman was a Bible worker. I met her at Chungking, now the capital of resisting China, in the far west. As a child Miss Li had attended a mission school, where she had learned many Bible texts. Some years later she became ill—so sick as to be at times but half conscious. At such times those Scripture texts kept coming to mind. She would repeat them. "Stop it!" her heathen father commanded. "But I cannot stop it," she replied. "The words speak themselves in my mind." Then one day a voice said to her: "My child, Jesus loves you. Get up." She got up and strength came. She began to search for those who could teach her of Jesus. She found our mission; and to this day she is out winning other women to Christ.

Still she insisted that in telling her story she did not want us to think she amounted to anything. But at any rate, she is "one of the least." Even of the little ones Jesus said: "Despise not one of these little ones; for I say unto you, That in heaven their angels do always behold the face of My Father which is in heaven." Matthew 18:10.

It surely means there is an angel assigned to watch over every child of God, however poor or humble the station in life may be.

Angels in Time of Need

It is a comforting thought in wartime to know that angels do not forsake the field. The last time I was in Europe, shortly before the outbreak of the present war, I learned in Scandinavia of an experience of manifest angel ministry.

Abbreviated, here is the story as it was told to me: A young Swedish woman, a colporteur for religious books, had taken orders in the mining section of northern Sweden, and was delivering the books. More than one housekeeper said to her: "You must leave early to get back to your place in the village before dark.

This is a rough part up here in the mines. You must get through those woods on your way back before night."

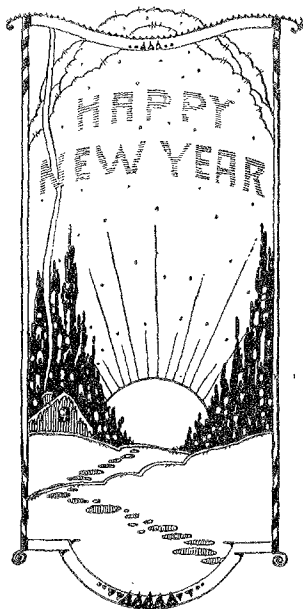
But the colporteur was delayed. By the time she reached the forest path on the way to the village, night had fallen. The path through the dense wood looked dark and forbidding. The young lady said that she knelt down and prayed that God would send an angel to go with her.

Not that she expected any visible evidence of an angel's presence; not at all. It was a comfort to know that God's angel would surely be with her. But, lo, as she rose from prayer and stepped on into the forest path, there appeared a glowing light in the boughs overhanging the path. It gave a light on the pathway. And in all the walk through the forest there followed, or went before, that light in the tree branches overhead. When she got within sight of the village the light left her.

Her voice broke with emotion at the memory, as she said with tears: "I am sure that God sent an angel to go with me that night."

Of course; it is only in harmony with the promises of God. The believer does not often see such a manifestation as this. It is not necessary. Faith knows that the heavenly helpers are near, though unseen. These occasional visible tokens of their presence—that we find mentioned in the Bible record, and that are repeated now and then in present-day experience—are surely only manifested to help our faith to lay hold of the promises of God and take comfort all the time in the fact that we are not alone in this world.

"Lonely? no, not lonely
While Jesus standeth by;
His presence always cheers me;
I know that He is nigh."



New Year Prayer

by I. S. ELLIS

Lord, Thou hast given me a clean, new year.
Help me to keep its pages pure, unspoiled;
To write upon its scroll but kindly thoughts;
With no unsightly blots to have it soiled.

Let me not mar, in thought or word or deed,
This page, so white, so pure, unsullied, fair.
Help me to know that when I stand in need
Of help from Thee, Thou'rt always standing there.

When duty calls me, Lord, let pleasure wait.
Let me fulfill my calling. Let Thy will,
Not mine, be done. Oh, let me ever hear
Thy calm, approving voice, Thy guidance still.

Lead me, dear Lord, in paths of peacefulness.
But if, perchance, Thy paths should ever lie
O'er mountain trails, though they be rough and bleak,
Then may I answer, "Master, here am I."

True Greatness

THERE is a greatness that is greater than that of self-exaltation. There is a greatness that is deeper than the grasping after greatness. It is the greatness of a person who is willing to suffer reproach that others may be helped.

The glory of the cross of Christ will be the theme of the ages, and His crown was gained by way of the cross. His greatness came through His humility. His glory was gained by being willing to suffer shame and reproach that lost sinners might enjoy the glory of heaven. The exaltation of Jesus above every other name came by the way of self-abnegation. Thus His humiliation has become His greatness.

True love delights in sacrificing that others may be blessed. We must become nothing in order to become something. Then out of weakness we shall be made strong. This may all seem like a contradiction, but it is one of the great facts of the gospel, no less true because it seems a paradox.

N. P. NEILSEN.

ANNUAL MEETING

of the

Pacific Press Publishing Association

Notice is hereby given, to all whom it may concern, that the annual meeting of the members of the Pacific Press Publishing Association, a corporation organized and existing under and by virtue of the laws of the state of California, will be held at the office of the Association on Villa Street, in the town of Mountain View, county of Santa Clara, state of California, on Monday, January 27, 1941, A. D., at 10 a.m.

The election of Directors for the ensuing year, the advisability of amending, repealing or adopting new bylaws, or such other business as may be necessary or proper to be transacted, will come before the members of the Association.

By order of the Directors.

J. H. COCHRAN, Vice-President.
H. G. CHILDS, Secretary.



People are revived only by spiritual leaders with a flaming, living, message.

THE CRY FOR CERTAINTY

*A Confused and Drifting World
Yearns for a Voice of Authority*

by FREDERICK LEE

THE world today is like a ship plowing head on through boisterous and troubled seas without compass, chart, or pilot. These have long since been cast overboard by self-sufficient and self-confident men of scientific genius who believed in the inevitability of progress. They had no use for religion with its Bible and its Christ.

Now we stand appalled looking into the yawning deep without a resolute faith to hold us steady as disaster threatens the world. Church leaders, as well as world leaders, are now both alike without a certain faith and find themselves greatly bewildered, while the cry for some message of certainty and assurance rises above the din of battle and revolution. We may well ask the questions: What has the Christian church to offer in a day like this? Can there be certainty in religious belief? Can we be sure that there is a God who dwells beyond the ken of human affairs and who is interested in the welfare of mankind? Has God made contact with man? Has He a plan for our deliverance from the plight in which we now find ourselves?

Speaking With Authority

It was said of Christ that He taught as one having authority and not as the scribes. The people looked to Christ and were fed. But the religious leaders of that day gave them only what was left of truth after they had ground it fine in the schools of religion and philosophy. By the time it came to the people, it was refined beyond recognition and the vita-

mins of hope and healing had been eradicated from it.

This has been repeated in this generation. The editor of *The Christian Century* pertinently remarked concerning some business laymen who had pointed out the failures of the church, "When these laymen turn to the shepherds of the flock they look up and are not fed."

Why are there so many empty pews in the churches?

What people want is certainty in religious belief. They are not revived and comforted by bewildered spiritual leaders, who interject "ifs" and "probables" in their sermons and speak with hesitation. What a pity that the church which started out in purity of faith and with a certain hope should have lost its way and is now dabbling in vain philosophies and speculation while a collapsing world waits for a message of assurance.

Christ was asked on more than one occasion, "By what authority doest Thou these things?" and He had positive answers to give the people. He would permit no doubt to assail Him even when the archenemy tried to trip Him up. To every suggestion of doubt He hurled back the words, "It is written."

Ask the leaders of the more than 256 denominations now listed in the United States, "By what authority doest thou these things?" and what answers will you get? Many will answer, "By the authority of the pope." Others will answer, "By the authority of science," "By the authority of reason," and others, feeling the need of some scriptural au-

thority, will point to some isolated and irrelevant text. But the great majority would no doubt have to admit, "We do not know."

It is little wonder, then, that the book of Revelation pictures the religious situation in the last days as "Babylon" (confusion). What we see today is a bewildered church crying for certainty.

A Bewildered Age

Many today see and deplore this situation. We read in the book *Affirmations*, edited by Bernard Iddings Bell: "It is doubtful whether there has ever been an age in which man has understood himself so little; in which he has been so knowing and so unaware, so burdened with purposes and yet at bottom so purposeless, so disillusioned and feeling himself so completely the victim of illusion. This indecision permeates our entire culture—our science and our philosophy, our industry, and our art. It is not strange that it should have entered into our religions and our religious life."

Again we read: "The terror of a vast unbelief is gripping mankind in some sort of spiritual glacial age, which threatens chaos."—*This Nation Under God*, page 11.

James E. Freeman, Episcopal Bishop of Washington, D. C., wrote in the *Washington Star* of August 14, 1938: "A distinguished English writer maintains: 'The greatest need of mankind today, socially and individually, is a true sense of direction.' He describes our modern world as like an Atlantic liner minus rudder, compass, sextant, and charts, very comfortable and magnificent, with an abundance of power but incapable of reaching any designed objective. . . . There is much in what he says. . . . The old landmarks and range finders have for the while lost their value, and tested experience has abdicated its authority and

gives no warrant for determining our future course of action."

Many are deploring this uncertain state in which we now find ourselves. If ever there was a time when we needed assurance and a sense of direction, it is today when pagan revolutions threaten to undermine all that a Christian civilization holds dear. When one structure after another is seen collapsing, as if shaken by a mighty earthquake, it is not strange that men begin to wonder if any structure will remain standing after the shocks are past.

In recent years and months, pointed discussions of this problem have come from the pen of many thinking people. In the *Atlantic Monthly* of April, 1939, an article appeared under the title, "Stay-at-Home Christians." It pointed out some of the reasons why so many people are staying away from church these days. From this we quote part of one paragraph: "Hopefully these people look, as the more intelligent of human beings have not looked for many a long year, to the church and its ministers; but what they observe somewhat bewilders them. Can it be that the official proponents of God fail to understand the inner need that moves, the hunger that impels, the ordinary man? . . . Too rarely do the parsons strike that note of sureness which the man in the street longs to hear, the note which he is persuaded belongs rightfully to the household of faith."

Again, in *Harper's Magazine* of December, 1939, an article entitled "Since Yesterday" appeared which describes the changes that have come about in recent years and refers to the failure of the church to stimulate confidence in many a world-weary man. One sentence says: "One thinks of the remark of a young man during the dark days of 1932: 'If someone came along with a line of stuff in which I could easily believe, I'd follow him pretty nearly anywhere.'"

"Desperately in Need"

While secular magazines are pointing out the weaknesses of the church, it is not surprising to read in church journals such statements as the following:

Says the editor of the *Christian Advocate* of May 25, 1939: "The church must recover a knowledge of its faith. Our new unity of organization must be energized by a new-old unity of the inward spirit."

We read in the same journal of August 1, 1940: "We are desperately in need of a new perspective. We need an interpreter and an interpretation. If men will not think now they will never think again."

The editor of *The Christian Century*, April 3, 1940, declares: "Something has happened to the spirit of Protestantism in the course of the past half century

which has shorn it of its power to bear witness to the distinctive principles of its own faith."

Bernard Iddings Bell writes in the *Religious Digest* of July, 1940: "People do not come to church to be entertained. They can get a better show at the cinema or over the radio. They come to worship and to learn about themselves and their destiny. Woe be to the preacher that gives them something else!"

Are We "Condemned to Fumble"?

One may be contented to look upon some church as a fine social center and be happy to mingle in fraternal good fellowship with preacher and layman under ordinary circumstances without much thought of religious certainty. But when the heavens begin to rain death and destruction and the foundations of faith and hope are being shaken, men and women long for something more than church socials and philosophical dissertations. They want a message direct from God. They want to know what awaits them in the distant future. They want to know what part God has to act in the affairs of men.

Yet one writer tells us that we are "condemned to fumble in these times, for the mist is too thick to see far down the road."—*Atlantic Monthly*, July, 1940. Article, "The Other Side of the Hill."

Flashlines

"PROPHETS" "I am told," writes D. W. IN DEMAND in the *Tablet*, "that if you go to the British Museum to read the prophecies of Nostradamus, you are only allowed to keep them for half an hour, so eager and long is the queue."

CONQUERORS NEVER INHERIT "Through all the ages men have striven to conquer the earth," declared Rev. Dr. Harold Phillips in a recent sermon. "One of them seems to be achieving it again with disturbing success. But where are the empires of our Caesars and Napoleons? These men have conquered, destroyed the earth, but have never inherited it."

OPPOSITION TO MASS CONVERSIONS According to the *Indian Social Reformer*, Dr. Paranjpye has introduced into the Bombay Legislature a bill to prevent and to punish conversions by fraud or force, conversions of minors, and mass conversions. The right of an individual to change his faith is conceded and confirmed, but safeguards are provided against advantage being taken of a person's poverty, ill health, or mental weakness to induce him to change his religion.

Is this the best answer we have in a day like this? If ever God spoke to men, He should not keep silent now. Where are His prophets to tell us the meaning of these times? What we want to find is a firm rock that cannot be shaken. Many today are crying for a message that will give them a sense of security.

A Rock That Will Not Tremble

A story is told of a little Irish lad who was wrecked in a stormy sea off the coast of England. He was washed up by the waves on to a rocky ledge where he managed to find security from the raging sea. When he was finally rescued and somewhat recovered from his terrible experience, he was asked, "Lad, didn't ye tremble out there on the rocks in all that storm?" He answered brightly in his Irish way, "Trimble? Sure and I trimbled. But do you know, the rock never trimbled wanct all night."

It is such a refuge for which millions are looking today, a rock that will not tremble "though the earth be removed, and though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea; though the waters thereof roar and be troubled, though the mountains shake with the swelling thereof." Because of the fearful test through which we must pass, the flesh may tremble, but we need not fail nor be dis-

(Continued on page 14)

by W. L. EMMERSON

HEALTH AND RELIGION "We should, after all, have to cross out a tremendous lot of the New Testament if we said there was no relationship between health and religion," declared the Rev. Leslie D. Weatherhead in introducing a report of a committee on spiritual healing to the recent Methodist Conference in Sheffield, England.

CZECH PRIEST-PREMIER The premier of the Provisional Government of Czechoslovakia recently recognized by the British Government is the seventy-year-old Mgr. Jan Sramek. "Each morning," says the *Universe*, "he celebrates mass before going to his office near the Marble Arch."

STANDING FAST "Those who live by the opinions of others rather than by their own convictions lead a life of endless frustrations and futility," declared Dr. Joseph Sizoo, in a recent sermon in New York. "We must stand by our convictions, however difficult it may be. At times it is hard to refuse a compromise; but if we are to save ourselves, we must stand stanchly by what we believe, and refuse any and all compromises. Remember," he added, "that in the final analysis everything will depend on what you are within."

THE Bible has had a long and varied career. Parts of it were written more than three thousand years ago, while the latest part is nearly nineteen hundred years old. Men have "refuted" and "exploded" it more times than any other book, but it has outlived all its foes. Like the gem, which, even when broken, exhibits the beauty and perfection of the whole, it has proved its indestructibility. It has survived the attacks of all its enemies and withstood the ravages of time. It has contended with error, fought the fury of passion, withstood the cruelty of persecution.

Foes have risen up against it; pagans have aimed to destroy it; bigots have tried to monopolize it; and ungodly men have hated it for its threat to evildoers. Jehoiakim cut the divine scroll to pieces and put them into the fire; Antiochus, one hundred seventy years before Christ, ordered all copies of Scripture to be burned; and Diocletian by an edict decreed that all holy writings be committed to the flames. Men in every age and in many lands have made war against the word of God, and even the present enlightened age is not exempt. But, like the ark of Noah, upborne and protected by the hand of the Almighty, it has safely ridden over the rolling billows of history. Having withstood successfully all its enemies till the present time, there is no reason to think that it will not emerge victorious from any conflict that it may face in the future.

Infidelity has fought against it with relentless malignity. Payne blasphemed it; Voltaire mocked it; Ingersoll ridiculed it; communists have tried to destroy it; but the Bible still lives and prospers, and is today the best seller. Many a volume that once made a bid for immortality is now forgotten. Thrones have crumbled, empires have risen and fallen, philosophers and their systems have vanished, but the Bible lives on. It is still the greatest factor in human thought.

The more it is opposed, the more it flourishes. It is found in Chinese camps and in the red man's wigwam; the natives in the African kraal know it, and the Fiji islanders love and revere it. There is hardly a speech or a tongue where its language is not heard. It is the universal book of mankind. It is the hope of the depressed and downtrodden, the friend of those who mourn. In prisons and concentration camps it buoys men up and gives them hope; in hours of agony it imparts strength to the sufferer. It is the encourager of virtue and every noble ambition. It soothes the fevered brow, speaks peace to the troubled soul and conscience, lifts up the discouraged and fallen, and fills the broken life with new hopes and aspirations. It scourges the sinner, denounces the hypocrite, lashes the profligate; it calls down the wrath of

HAS THE

BIBLE

A MESSAGE FOR TODAY?

The Book of a Thousand Battles

Not the "Book of the Year" but the Book of the Ages

by M. L. ANDREASEN

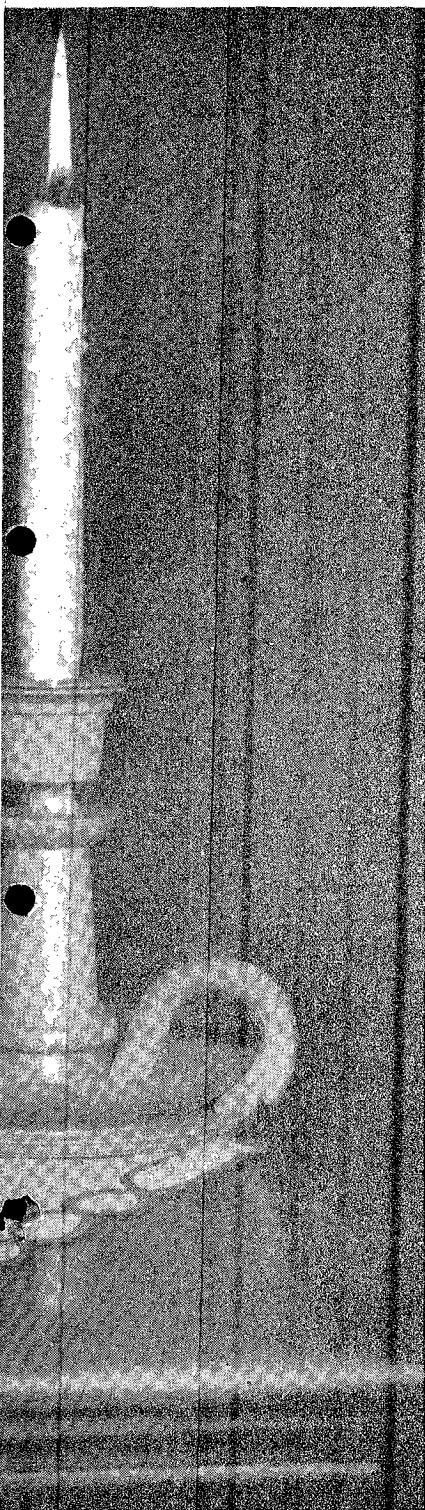


heaven upon the oppressor; but let there be but the first signs of repentance, and it will quickly apply the balm of Gilead. The wounds which sin has made will be cleansed and mollified with ointment, and the riches of the love of God will be profusely poured out.

Of late years the attack on the Bible has come not so much from infidels and unbelievers as from those within the church. The attacks of modernism on the authority and authenticity of the Bible are more dangerous and insidious than any previous attack made by avowed enemies of the word. While we would not discount the value of higher criticism

in certain fields of research, we are convinced that the harm it has done in destroying the fundamentals outweighs the good. We are inclined to be charitable toward all, but we believe that the sum total of the results of modernism has been detrimental to the best interests of Christianity; that it tends toward the destruction of faith; that it takes away faith and hope and gives us no adequate substitute.

More than four hundred years ago Martin Luther, placing his hands on the Bible, said: "Here I stand; I can do no otherwise. God help me. Amen!" This is the true stand of every Protestant. Protestantism is built upon the founda-



KEYSTONE

tion of the Bible, and only as long as it stands upon this foundation will it survive.

Some years ago I was marooned over the week end in a small town in one of the northern states. Since there was no means of transportation, I was compelled to stay over till Monday, waiting for a train to take me to my destination. Thinking there was no church service in town, I hung up a small sign on the door of the town hall, stating that I would speak that afternoon. Somewhat to my surprise there was a good-sized audience present, who listened attentively to what was being said. At the close of the meet-

ing I took courage to announce another meeting for the evening and invited all to come back. At this a well-dressed man arose, announced himself as the temporary pastor of the small church in town, stated that there would be a service there in the evening and that he doubted that there was room for two meetings in the small town on the same night. He therefore kindly invited me to occupy his pulpit, which invitation was gladly accepted.

In the evening the church was filled, and again I spoke. After the service, during which the audience had given respectful attention, I was somewhat perplexed when the pastor accosted me, saying:

"I am almost sorry I asked you to speak tonight. When I heard you speak this afternoon I took you to be an intelligent man. Now I know you are not."

"What has caused you to change your mind? What have I said with which you do not agree?"

"I was much astonished to hear you speak as though you believe the first chapter of Genesis. No intelligent man believes that any more."

"Do you not believe in the first book of the Bible?"

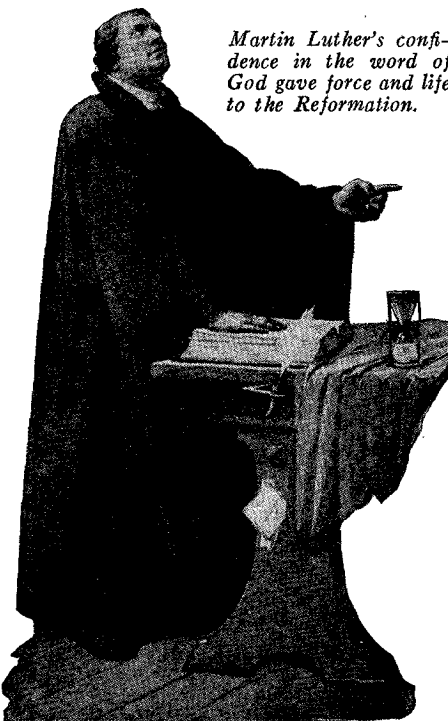
"Why, no. Intelligent men do not believe in Genesis. The creation theory as there set forth has been exploded long ago."

"If you do not believe in Genesis, do you believe in the rest of the Old Testament?"

"The Old Testament was good enough for the people back there. We are Christians and do not need the Old Testament."

"Do you believe in the New Testament?"

"There are many excellent things in



Martin Luther's confidence in the word of God gave force and life to the Reformation.

it. But when it comes to Paul's writings, I abominate them."

"You what?"

"I abominate them. They are the cause of all our troubles. If it were not for Paul we would have little trouble."

"What about Christ? Anything wrong about Him?"

"Christ was a good man, a very good man. Of course, He had His faults, but He was a good man."

"He had His faults?"

"Oh yes; He had His faults. But we all do. He was a very good man."

This led to a conversation that lasted most of the night. It appeared that the pastor was a well-read man. He was merely in that small place temporarily; actually he was located in an important city serving a large congregation. He was also president of the board of the seminary of his church for that district.

"Do you teach your ministerial candidates what you have told me tonight?" I asked. "Are they taught to believe about Genesis as you do?"

"Certainly. They are well-informed when they leave our seminary. Of course, they are taught to use discretion when they preach to the people; for not all the members are as far advanced in their views as we are. The young men might do harm should they go too far or too fast."

"You mean to say that the preachers are ahead of the people?"

"Yes, ought they not to be? But the people are coming along. We used to have trouble with certain members, but we have little difficulty now. We have practically no fundamentalists in our churches any more. In some respects this is not so good, for many of them were good people, better by far than the average of what we now have."

This conversation gave food for thought. What may we expect when the coming ministry is taught to doubt the credibility of the Bible? When the Son of man comes shall He find faith on the earth? What shall we say when the Protestant ministry has left the Protestant platform and become involved in the maze and haze of higher criticism? Is it possible to remove the foundations and expect the superstructure to remain standing?

What are we who still revere the Bible to do under these conditions? We must search the Book as never before, and resolutely uphold its teachings. We must raise the cry anew, Back to the Bible! or better still, Forward with the Bible! The banner of truth must not be allowed to trail in the dust. We must lift it on high.

In subsequent articles we shall consider a few of the many precious things which the word of God holds for us today.

The Experiment of FOREIGN MISSIONS

Has It Been Worth the Cost?

What Have Missions Accomplished?

by H. G. WOODWARD

Superintendent, Telugu Mission of Seventh-day Adventists, Nuzvid, Kistna District, India

WE should judge missions as we judge everything else—by results. It is indeed quite proper to question: "What have missions accomplished? Has the end justified the means? What have missions to show for all the lives sacrificed and all the money expended?" It must not be forgotten that the work of modern missions was entered upon in the nature of an experiment. Has the experiment proved a success?

Let us make a brief survey of the results of missionary endeavor and note the results. More than one hundred years ago a poor cobbler could have been seen sitting at his bench. You would have observed an expression of pensive wistfulness on his face. Upon the wall of his shop was a homemade world map upon which were strange markings. Had you inquired the name of the humble cobbler, you would have learned that it was William Carey. The world map upon the wall was indicative of the burden which had been placed upon him.

It was he who was to inaugurate a new epoch in the Christian calendar, and become known in years to come as "The Father of Modern Missions." So seriously did he assume his responsibility that, having surmounted mountainous difficulties, he at length arrived in India as a Protestant Christian missionary. So utterly foolish did the enterprise seem that he was referred to derisively in the British House of Commons as "the consecrated cobbler."

His missionary service was entered upon in the face of the most bitter opposition. But the strength of his conviction enabled him to endure. He gave his life for India, and was buried beneath its soil. The work of this remarkable man was spoken of with contempt. The British East India Company said: "The sending of missionaries into our Eastern possessions is the maddest, most expensive, most unwarranted project that was ever proposed by a lunatic enthusiast."

But time is the test of all things, and with the lapse

of a century, the marvelous results of missions were so evident that the lieutenant governor of Bengal was constrained to confess: "In my judgment, Christian missionaries have done more lasting good to the people of India than all other agencies combined."

Those who visit India today find existing conditions very different from those at the time Carey began his work. The burning of the Hindu wife on the funeral pyre of her husband, that practice of religious murder, is no more. The tyranny of caste and the institution of temple prostitution are passing away. And all because a humble Christian cobbler accepted the responsibility of the Christian church to make Christ known to those having no hope and without God.

The example of the consecrated cobbler was noted in America. Adoniram Judson determined to take up the challenge to preach Christ in Bengal. But, added to the enmity of the British East India Company was the fact that Britain was at war with France, and it was all but impossible to obtain a boat to take the prospective missionary to his destination.

But love for Christ acknowledges no barriers; and Judson and his young wife at last reached their destination. It was in God's plan, however, that Judson was to be the apostle to Burma, and it was to this country that circumstances compelled him to go the next year.

How hopeless appeared the prospect which faced him! The native king was a cruel tyrant, and on their entrance into the town in which they were to live, they

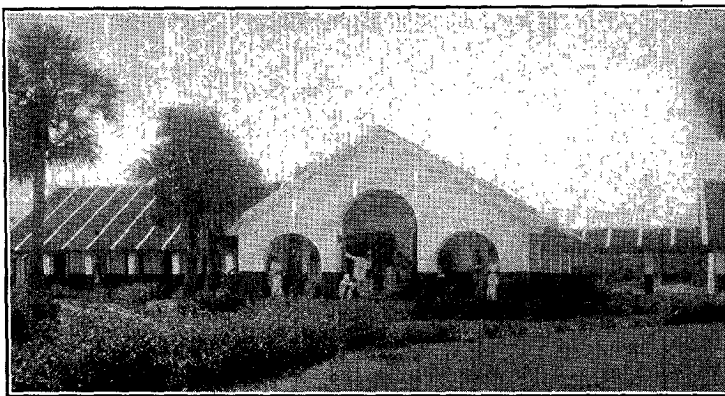
beheld a crucified and disemboweled man, an example to all who dared to disobey the king. Death was the penalty to those who dared to respond to the appeals of the missionary.

The time came when Judson himself was imprisoned, with his feet made fast in the stocks. But nothing could daunt the man, who, when rescued from his jail, continued to work for the people till at last, on April 12, 1850, he entered into rest.

Many years have passed since the days of this ardent missionary. Visit the delightful land of Burma with me in these days of grace. Enter with me the many churches in which the name of Jesus is lifted up in praise. Come with me on a tour of the many schools filled with bright and happy students. Witness with me the culture that pervades even the non-Christian religions of the country, and you will behold a demonstration of the fact that enlightenment and progress follow naturally in the footsteps of the missionary.

The name of David Livingstone speaks to us of liberty for the captive and enlightenment for those sitting in darkness. All the world knows of the noble service extended to humanity in the name of Christ by this selfless messenger of the cross. Into the very heart of darkest Africa he penetrated. When month after month passed by with no word from him, all felt that he had been swallowed up in the dense jungle and was forever lost. Then it was that the *New York Herald* sent Henry Stanley to find him. November 10, 1871, they met.

Stanley was successful in his search and discovered not only Livingstone, but also the African chief Mtesa. The chief became interested in the work of the missionaries, with the result that Stanley sent a letter to the *London Daily Telegraph*. An appeal was made to the Protestant missionary societies to commence work in Uganda. Within two days the sum of \$25,000 was anonymously offered to the Church Missionary So-



An efficient mission hospital at Narsapur, West Godavari, South India.

ciety to enable it to accept the challenge.

With others, Alexander Mackay was sent to Uganda, and missionary work was established. Prospects for the future seemed bright, and it was not long before earnest converts joined the infant church. Satan, however, was not willing to accept such a situation complacently, and it was not long before the Uganda church was called upon to pass through a baptism of blood and fire. History tells us of the noble African martyrs who were cast to the flames in a mutilated condition, singing as they perished, "Daily, daily sing His praises."

"Here Was No Decadent People"

The years have rolled by, but the results of the noble service of David Livingstone and Alexander Mackay are now more obvious than ever. Slavery, which Livingstone spoke of as "the open sore of Africa," can no more lift its head in arrogance. The church of Christ, watered by the blood of the youthful martyrs of Uganda, is strong and virile.

The gospel has not changed, and it is still true that wherever it is preached lives are changed, evil customs are abandoned, and enlightenment and prosperity are established. Here is an unsolicited testimony to the value of missions from W. C. Groves, the accomplished anthropologist.

An invitation was extended to this gentleman to visit the islands of Mussau and Emirau to investigate the results of the missionary work of the Seventh-day Adventist Mission Board on behalf of the very primitive natives of these islands. Mr. Groves was somewhat acquainted with the former condition of these poor souls, and had described them as a "decadent people."

Visiting first the island of Emirau, he declared that he saw unmistakably that "here was no decadent people; here no racial malaise such as I had recently seen in other parts. . . . Having a very definite purpose to serve, I soon got about among the natives themselves, in their settlements. . . . From every angle I approached them, trying suggestion, cajolery, ridicule, upon individuals and groups—fast they stood, fast for the new life, with no regrets, and as far as I could see, no possible ill effects on their social or economic lives."

He then visited the neighboring island of Mussau, and describes what he saw as follows: "Through the courtesy and with the wholehearted assistance of the missionaries there, I saw . . . the wilderness of Mussau's primeval jungle razed to the ground, to give way to a settlement of native houses, with spacious food gardens, and a neat little native village; . . . saw the remains of one of those immense, black, treacherous, tropical mangrove swamps, that had been

cleared away; saw a well-constructed little wharf with roadway approach, that cut through a sheer wall of coralline rock, to mount to the hilltop above. . . . Truly the mission stations will become, have become already, the focal point of new interests, the radiating centers of new life."

Foreign missions are the human response to a divine command. As such, they are subject to errors of judgment, and sometimes exhibit human frailty. But the results which follow obedience to the call to preach the gospel to all the world can never be anything but good.

Dr. Simon Flexner, head of the Rockefeller Institute, returning from a tour of missionary investigation in the Far East on which he had been sent by the Rockefeller Foundation, said: "There is no organization in the world, either philanthropic or business, which is getting as large returns out of the money it spends, as the various boards of foreign missions."

Let us then rise to our responsibilities in the support of missions.

Faith Enough

If I had faith enough, I would ride the wilderness path with a song in my heart, knowing that across the monotonous stretch lies a rich and happy Christian experience.

If I had faith enough, I would be hopeful in thwarted ambition and keen disappointments, confident that God has for each individual a purpose to be realized, a plan to be fulfilled.

If I had faith enough, I would act instantly, bravely, joyously on God's commands, thrilling at the thought of grasping His hand in uncertainty and darkness.

If I had faith enough, I would shed the effects of the barbed word, the shrug of disapproval, the studied slight, holding them of little significance in comparison to God's precious promises.

If I had faith enough, I would welcome the harassing experiences that curb my impetuosity and humble my pride, believing that God makes His dwelling place with those who are humble and wait upon Him. EDITH PETERSON.

"I HEREBY RESOLVE!"

by
GRENVILLE
KLEISER



THE man who resolves to concentrate on one important objective and puts forth his best efforts, day after day, is destined for real achievement.

Ability to do one thing supremely well is better than to possess a score of varied but half-used talents.

You enhance your chances of successfully attaining your objective when you take time to think out the best available means of pursuing it.

Here are some suggestions that will help you to formulate a set of New Year's resolutions for yourself:

- I resolve to chart a daily plan.
- I resolve to talk less and listen more.
- I resolve to be an intelligent optimist.
- I resolve to think and act deliberately.
- I resolve to be a constructive thinker.
- I resolve to take time to be friendly.
- I resolve to be uniformly courteous.
- I resolve to praise rather than to censure.
- I resolve to keep fit.

I resolve to shun debt.

I resolve to invest my money prudently.

I resolve to be temperate in all things.

I resolve to do an hour's solid reading every day.

I resolve to profit by past mistakes.

I resolve to smile in the face of disappointment.

I resolve to cultivate patience.

I resolve to be alert to new opportunities.

I resolve to practice the golden rule.

The remedy for broken resolutions is to make them again and again, each time stronger and more insistent.

It has been said that good principles form a suit of armor that no weapon can penetrate.

Resolve not to make the common mistake of attempting or acquiring too much. Know when to stop work, to stop making money, to stop reaching out for still more.

Review each night what you have actually accomplished during the day, and resolve to do still better on the morrow.

AS THE New Year is dawning, we are all extending to one another our best wishes for a "prosperous New Year." The Bible, too, expresses a similar greeting: "Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper."

But how can we make the New Year happy and prosperous? Many have the idea that success in business is something that belongs to the world; and that Christians must be both poor and miserable; that it is wrong to be prosperous. But that is not the teaching of Jesus. Listen to His reply to Peter's question, "What shall we have?" Jesus said, "There is no man that hath left house, or brethren, or sisters, or father, or mother, or wife, or children, or lands, for My sake, and the gospel's, but he shall receive an hundredfold now in this time, . . . and in the world to come eternal life." Mark 10:29, 30.

What a sweeping statement! "*An hundredfold now in this time.*" That doesn't sound like poverty; that sounds like prosperity—houses, lands, brothers, sisters, fathers, mothers. But why mention these? Accepting Christ sometimes means great sacrifice. We lose our employment. Family ties are snapped. But for every brother or sister we lose we get a hundred in their place. How true that is! A spiritual relationship binds together the "household of faith." We are united in Christ; we are His purchased possession, redeemed by His precious blood that we might show forth His virtues. 1 Peter 2:9, margin.

The Christian is called to reveal the attributes of the character of Christ. It was for this purpose that He redeemed us. He purchased us with His own blood. He bought us that He might set us free.

Years ago a hardened old colored man was being sold at an auction. He was a powerful-looking fellow, and as values were, he was worth quite a sum. The bids were rising, but the old man, his hands rough, his back scarred, looked around savagely, calling out, "I won't work! I won't work!" In spite of his protests, however, the bids rose higher, and at last a kindly faced gentleman offered a price far above what was considered his value, and the old negro was sold. Driving away with his new master, he was sullen, but determined.

At last they reached the homestead, and the master pointed across to the servant's quarters. But the only reply was, "I won't work. You can thrash me, but I won't work." Quietly the two stepped into a neatly arranged room.

The master said, "Well, Sam, here's where you'll live." To which the old man made the same answer. "Well, we shall talk about that later," said the owner. "But you do know that I bought you, and I paid a high price for you, didn't I?"

"Yes, but I won't work."

A Prosperous

*How It May
Be Yours*

NEW YEAR!

by R. ALLAN ANDERSON

"No, I know you won't, and you'll never have to. Sam, I bought you to set you free. You now have your liberty."

Free! Liberty! The two men looked at each other, then all at once hot tears began to course down those rough black cheeks, and then, falling on his knees, the old man cried out, "Oh, massa, I am your slave forever." His freedom became the opportunity to prove his love for one who had done so much for him.

We have all been slaves—slaves to self-will, to passion, to sin. But we have been redeemed, purchased by a price far greater than rubies. But we were purchased to be set free. "Stand fast therefore in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free." Galatians 5:1.

Ours must never be the attitude of the cringing slave. No, we are free men in Christ Jesus. And if we are free we can afford to be much less concerned over the future than we are. "Perfect love casteth out fear." 1 John 4:18. Take no anxious thought for the morrow, but rather seek first the kingdom of God, and then the other things—food, drink, and clothing—will all be added. Matthew 6:31-34. The words of counsel from Jesus do not teach a total disregard for temporal needs. But if we put first things first, the necessities of life will be assured. After paying so high a price, He will not be unmindful of us. According to His promises, He will supply all our needs. Philippians 4:19. "Honor the Lord with thy substance, and with the first fruits of all thine increase: so shall thy barns be filled with plenty." Proverbs 3:9, 10. Seek the kingdom of God and all other things will be added; honor the Lord, and your barns shall be full. That is the secret of prosperity, and it rests on the principle of making God first in all our business dealings.

There is great danger, however, that bursting barns will cause us to forget God. How easy it is to forget! Sin came into this world when the serpent caused the woman to forget. How prone her children are to follow her example! But to forget God is to lose eternal life. "Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth," is the injunction. But how can we remember? In order to help us, God has given two great memorials.

One reminds us of His creative power, the other of His sustaining power. He says, "Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy." The Sabbath links us with the Creator. It is the memorial of creative power. That is why we are to remember to keep it holy. But we are to do something else. "Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse." "Thou shalt remember the Lord thy God: for it is He that giveth thee power to get wealth." Malachi 3:10; Deuteronomy 8:18.

The Sabbath and the tithe are divine ordinances to help us remember the God who made us. As far back as history goes, men have paid tithes. We read of Abraham's paying tithes to Melchizedek. But this was nothing new. Abraham was not inaugurating anything, but merely acting in harmony with the custom of that time. Dr. A. H. Sayce, an outstanding archaeologist, commented on this thought: "This offering of tithes was no new thing. In his Babylonian home Abram must have been familiar with the practice. The cuneiform inscriptions of Babylonia contain frequent references to it. It went back to the pre-Semitic age of Chaldea, and the great temples of Babylonia were largely supported by the tithes or tithe which was levied upon prince and peasant alike."

Through all the ages men of different races have testified to God's ownership by returning the tithe. It is not that God needs our tithe, for He declares, "The silver is Mine, and the gold is Mine, saith the Lord of hosts." No, He does not need the tithe, but we need His blessing, and to those who are faithful He gives the wonderful promise that He will open the windows of heaven and pour out a blessing. Someone may ask, Has God ever fulfilled this promise? Yes, a thousand times.

Here is a boy sixteen years of age, who with a heart of lead turns away from his father's grave. Alone and homeless he sets out to carve his own way in life. His mother had died when he was but a baby. He knows few people. Broken-hearted, he trudges his weary way along a country road. He meets an old man, who by strange coincidence knew this boy's father when they were both young. Hearing the tragic story, he takes from

his bundle of meager belongings an old Bible. It was a treasured possession. But he hands it to the lad saying, "God bless you, my boy. You read this old Book. Your life is just beginning; mine is almost at an end. Follow its counsel and God will guide you."

God did bless. Listen to this true life story. One of the first passages that lad read was the one in Malachi relating to the tithe. He determined to make God first in his life, and so the first money he earned he tithed. He continued to do so. Years passed, and now that boy, a prosperous businessman, is giving instructions to his accountant. Little by little, he has climbed from penury to power, and now, having bought out two partners, he is reorganizing the whole business. "The Lord and I are going to be full partners from now on," he says, to which his accountant replies, "But you can't afford it, sir." "Can't afford it! Why, I cannot afford not to; the Lord has been so good to me." From the very day he had received his first half dollar, he had given the Lord a tenth. Later on he had given two tithes; then three tithes; then four, and now he was going to divide evenly with the Lord! Prosperity came his way, but the more prosperous he became, the more eager he was to honor the Lord. Without going into details, that business grew until that man's name is a household word in every American home today. Yes, and that name has circled the globe. But it started by an honest tithe.

During the Boer war a Dutch Christian woman was left amid the shell-wrecked battlefields in her humble home. The British cavalry were advancing. They were amazed to find, amid the wreckage, this one house intact. They entered the garden gate, and were about to break into the house when the officer ordered them back. He knocked at the door and a timid, demure little woman opened it, expecting to be taken prisoner. Her husband was fighting on the side of the Dutch, and she was alone.

"But why are you here?" asked the officer.

In broken English she replied that she put her trust in the God of heaven.

"But we are at war," he said, "and it doesn't seem that God has much to do with us these days."

"Oh," she replied, "had you been here and seen how wonderfully God has kept His promise to me you would not say that."

The officer stepped inside to talk more with her. She brought her Dutch Bible and turned to Malachi 3:8-10.

"Then do you pay tithe?" he asked.

"Yes," she said, "and not one shell has fallen on our property, although everything around us is in ruin."

"But tell me the name of your religion,

for it sounds like my mother's. She too pays tithe, but keeps the seventh-day Sabbath."

"So do I," the Boer woman replied, now enthusiastic, and even excited.

Could it be true? Was this Australian officer talking to a member of his mother's church? Little by little she opened up the word of God while the battalion waited outside. Yes, his mother believed that Jesus was soon to return, and she had pleaded with him to give his heart to God, but he had not done so. In fact, he had run away from home, and now God was speaking to him through this woman, an enemy by nationality. As in her simple way she told of the love of Jesus and what joy she had in His service, and because of her love for Him she kept the Sabbath and paid her tithe, somehow it came with real conviction. The "devourer" had indeed been rebuked. Her home and even her garden had been spared. Prosperity in the midst of adversity, and a national crisis! Tears began to course down the cheeks of the officer, and there in that simple Boer home he yielded his life to Jesus. Her obedience had not only made it consistent for God to save her home, but it became the place of salvation for one who had wandered far from God.

"Since I paid my tithe my books show a 300 per cent increase in business," a man once said to me. He had been in the real estate business when I met him and brought him God's message for this hour. Two years later this was his testimony: "When I began to keep the Sabbath two years ago my business increased 100 per cent. But the next year I paid a faithful tithe, and now I can say to His praise we are doing 300 per cent more business

than we were before." "Then you believe it pays to pay tithe?" I said. "Pays! Why, one can't afford not to. It's wonderful to know that you are in partnership with God." I saw his books and can testify that his statement was not exaggerated.

Some years ago I was preaching in London, England, on this wonderful theme of the tithe, when a friend remarked, "I was a skilled workman in the finishing department of a London firm of jewelers, but owing to slack trade was given only part-time employment at a low wage. At that time the word of God came to me, revealing, with other truths, the Christian duty of paying tithe. Without delay I commenced to obey this commandment, and immediately realized more security regarding the gaining of a living. My wages became greater instead of less, and I never returned to the old days of want. From that time to the present, the Lord by His guidance and overruling providence has continued to enable me to obtain substantial wages, and a good living, with contentment."

Another testified of God's blessing in these words: "Several years ago our studio was located on the second floor of a four-story building. Fire broke out one night and, surrounding us, burned over, under, and on both sides of us. Water ran down our staircase like a brook, yet we had no damage whatever from either fire, smoke, or water. Investigators of the fire could hardly believe their eyes. We know that God fulfilled His promise to us. Just recently in our present location an awful explosion occurred a few paces east of us when the Elmira Savings Bank was blown up—a complete wreck. Windows were blown out on both sides of the street, on both sides of



Coming Next Week

IN ADDITION TO THE REGULAR FEATURES:

GOD TO THE RESCUE! W. A. Spicer

THE HOPE OF A NEW WORLD F. A. Spearing

HOW SCIENCE ROBBED THE CHURCH Frederick Lee

GOD FORETELLS THE FUTURE M. L. Andreasen

LIGHT BEARERS H. G. Woodward

WAS THE CARPENTER CHRIST? John L. Shuler

"I BELIEVE GOD" H. F. De'Ath

our place and under us, and yet we suffered no damage; not even a window was cracked. Which is another proof to us that God's promises are sure and His watchcare constant. He most certainly rebuked the devourer in our case."

Again and again I have seen God fulfill His word, and I know that His promise is true. Some of the largest business houses in England, such as Hartley's, Mackintosh's, Ricketts, and scores of others attribute their success to God's blessing in answer to their faithfulness in the matter of tithe. I could relate hundreds of incidents—true life stories—showing how God has honored His word when men and women have been faithful in returning His own.

The Lord's Blessing Promised

We may think we cannot afford to pay tithe. Yet we cannot afford to be without God's blessing. Nine tenths with Heaven's blessing added will go farther than ten tenths without it. "There is that scattereth, and yet increaseth; and there is that withholdeth more than is meet, but it tendeth to poverty." Proverbs 11:24.

After all, God calls those who withhold the tithe, robbers. Not only do we rob God, but we in reality rob ourselves of His blessing by unfaithfulness in this respect. A former bishop of Liverpool once said: "A Jew under the law gave one tenth of his income to God, and for a Christian, under grace, to give less, is a disgrace."

When Elijah came to the widow at Zarephath, she was getting a few sticks to bake a little cake, because the famine was sore in the land. The man of God said to her, "Make me . . . a little cake first." What a test of faith! But she did. She honored God with the little she had. The remarkable story is that the meal never ran out, and the cruse of oil never ran dry.

This New Year will be a prosperous New Year only as the God of heaven prospers us. Make it consistent for Him to bless you by taking Him into partnership in all that you do. "Happy is that people, whose God is the Lord."

The Flight of Time

(Continued from page 8)

are being learned, at least in the much-bombed areas, is evident from an article by John A. McMillan in the *British Advent Messenger*, organ of the Seventh-day Adventist Church in that country. Referring to the effect of evacuations caused by the ever-increasing damage to property, he writes:

"Twice in the Scriptures we read that the Lord 'scattered abroad' the people. Genesis 11:9; Acts 8:4. Again and again

we have been warned that we should disperse among the population, that we should avoid congregating into large central churches. Evacuation is now the order of the day. Whether we will or no, we are being 'scattered abroad.' And this may, in the providence of God, be of inestimable blessing to the Advent people. We may utilize this unique opportunity of extending the knowledge of the truth. "Therefore they that were scattered abroad went everywhere preaching the word." Not a word about their bemoaning their hardships, their discomforts. They preached 'the word.' And God blessed their faith and rewarded their constancy. "They which were scattered abroad . . . traveled, . . . preaching the word. . . . And the hand of the Lord was with them: and a great number believed, and turned unto the Lord." Acts 11:19-21.

"This would surely be a satisfying compensation for all the trouble and anxiety connected with evacuation. . . .

"Blasted homes should inspire, not discouragement, but the 'blessed hope.' It becomes increasingly clear that our salvation is 'nearer than when we believed.'"

If such counsel is followed, if the people of God refuse to be discouraged despite all their hardships and losses, and if they will indeed go everywhere preaching the word, then once again the wrath of men and devils will be made to praise the Lord. Out of all this colossal tragedy will come a clearer understanding of the will of God and a harvest of souls for His kingdom.

So while we may be witnessing today the greatest attack ever hurled against Christianity, we shall also behold the most glorious episodes in its history. The very intensity of the struggle will beget its noblest sons and inspire them to the sublimest deeds of Christian service and heroism.

Thank God, "the gates of hell shall not prevail."

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.....

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.

The Cry for Certainty

(Continued from page 7)

couraged if our confidence is rooted in a certain hope that cannot be shaken.

Is there such a hope as this? We answer, "Yes," and you may find it. God has not left the creatures of His hand without a certain message for a day like this.

But let me remind you that there can be no certainty aside from spiritual truth. Beware of the "certainty" derived from dogma that is based upon tradition and human interpretations. Likewise beware of that "certainty" which is founded upon personal revelation alone. A man may be going in the wrong direction and still feel certain that he is on the right road. But what a sad awakening when such a person learns of his mistake.

The enemy of men's souls is determined by one strategy or another to lead men far astray. First, he tries to make them doubt and stumble. If this does not accomplish his purpose, he then endeavors to inoculate them with a counterfeit faith. In his first attack upon the faith of men, Satan has enlisted the wise men of the world, the professors in universities, the scientists and philosophers. In the second offensive he has enlisted an apostate and perverted Christianity. It matters not to this evil general whether you fall before the cohorts of skepticism, or the battalions of dogmatism and an unsound faith.

As we continue this study of religious certainty, we will note how science has robbed men of their faith, how this has reacted upon the church, leading it to fail in its mission in time of great need. We shall find what science has to offer in the place of religious certainty, and also what the popular churches have to offer. Finally we will discuss what God has to offer, and how we may obtain a certain hope. Surely these are important questions and should be followed with the earnest prayer that light may shine where once there may have been doubt and fear.

SIGNS of the TIMES

The BIBLE Tells You

what part America will play in the crisis;
who will plan the next world order; what
the next world order will be like.

READ IT IN

POWER and PROPHECY

is rapidly becoming
a **BEST SELLER**

by **ARTHUR S. MAXWELL**
(*Editor of the Signs of the Times*)

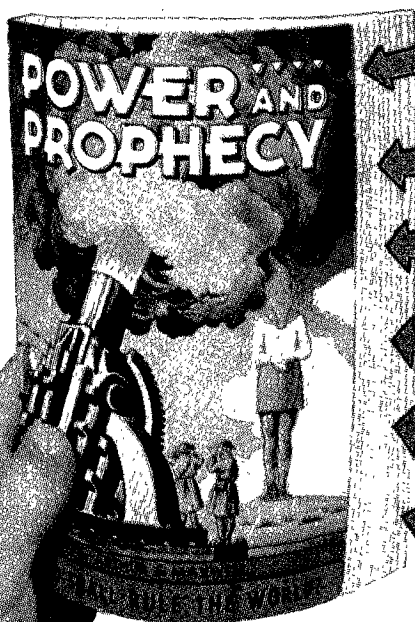
THIS thrilling new book, just off the press, speaks with conviction and authority. It clarifies the present and illuminates the future. It brings a message of comfort and cheer in this dark hour. Says the author:

"The mightiest struggle for power this world has ever seen is surging about us today. The battle of the ages is on. . . . In the thunderous convulsion whole nations have crumbled and collapsed like castles of sand before the crashing breakers of a tidal wave. Famous cities have vanished overnight. Ancient landmarks have been swept away in a moment. Our worst fears have been realized. Modern war has proved to be more fearful than we dared to dream."

"In this book we have touched upon a few of the more important questions arising from the latest phase of the struggle for power, now reaching its climax. Everybody wants to know whether one nation will rule the world, whether some church will achieve supremacy, whether or not there will be one world ruler, and if so, who it will be. Only divine prophecy can answer such questions; and we trust that the reader will agree, as he peruses these pages, that it has answered well."



INTERNATIONAL



BATTLE OF THE AGES
The age-long struggle for power.

WILL ONE NATION RULE MANKIND?
Rise of new aspirants to world dominion.

WILL ONE CHURCH DOMINATE THE WORLD?
Is the pope going to "steal the war"?

WILL AMERICA SEIZE THE SCEPTER?
Vast rearmament program foreseen in prophecy.

THE COMING WORLD RULER
Who shall it be?

THE NEW WORLD ORDER
Christ's program for planned economy.

Order from our nearest representative or
PACIFIC PRESS PUBLISHING ASSOCIATION
Mountain View, California

Price,
postpaid

25¢



LET'S GO TO THE RED CROSS

by DONALD W. McKAY

*First Aid Instructor, American
National Red Cross*

THE Red Cross is organized on a basis of permanent emergency. It never knows from one day to the next what demands are going to be made on it. It must be prepared for anything, anywhere.

Some people have the impression that the government helps the Red Cross. On the contrary, it is a national and international membership organization and receives no government money. Neither does it share in any fund-raising campaigns.

The Red Cross is one humanitarian organization which helps everyone in distress irrespective of race, color, or religion.

"Oh, yes," you may remark, like the wealthy New York businessman of whom the *Saturday Evening Post* wrote the other day, "I always join the Red Cross at roll call. I believe the organization does a lot of good for poor people, especially when something happens like a fire or a flood or an earthquake."

"Less than twelve months later," continued the *Post*, "the vicious and unprecedented hurricane which struck Long Island in September, 1938, swept this man's palatial summer home into West Hampton Bay, and with it his

ailing wife, his two children, and his entire domestic staff.

"Red Cross workers rescued them all. A Red Cross life-saver resuscitated the man's half-drowned son. A Red Cross doctor set the daughter's broken leg, his timely action undoubtedly saving the young girl a life of misery on crutches. A Red Cross nurse calmed the hysteria of their sick mother.

"Had this man been poor the Red Cross would have done just as much, probably more, for his distressed household. It might have fed them for weeks, clothed and sheltered them, provided them with medicine, hospitalization, and continued professional care."

The moral of this should be obvious. No matter who you are—rich or poor—or where you are, you are not immune to disaster or its effects. The war in Europe is grim evidence of this.

The needs this year are greater than ever before. Your generous donation will help the Red Cross to carry on its great work against the ravages of catastrophe, disease, and distress.

Your answer to its plea should be prompt and willing and generous.