

Our TIMES

SINCE 1891

A BIBLICAL INTERPRETER OF THE NEWS

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SEPTEMBER

TEN CENTS



PLUCKED FROM THE PRESS

1945 LIQUOR BILL—"The Department of Commerce added it up. . . . How much? Just \$7,770,000,000. . . . The distilled spirits cost \$4,385,000,000. The wine was only \$390,000,000. The beer cost us \$2,995,000,000."—*The ClipSheet* (Board of Temperance of the Methodist Church), June 3, 1946.

MILLION A MONTH—"During 1945 the [American Bible] Society distributed 12,243,355 volumes of the Scriptures, the average for the preceding 10 years being 8,251,197."—*Through Opening Doors with the Bible*, p. 4., American Bible Society, New York City, 1946.

BETTING BOOMING—"Pari-mutuel betting rose to \$1,500,000,000 last year, the Federation [of Tax Administrators] reported [on May 26, 1946], as 18,000,000 United States citizens went to the betting windows. The 1945 volume was reported to have been twice that of 1943."—*The New York Times*, May 27, 1946.

This twisting tornado killed 16 persons and wrecked scores of homes and factories in Detroit last June. A few days later another tornado hit the same city. (Acme photo.)



IN FOUR YEARS—"During 1945 the [American Bible] Society completed a cycle of four years in which paper had been put in process for the publishing of 50,478,648 copies of the Scripture."—*Through Opening Doors with the Bible*, p. 4., American Bible Society, New York City, 1946.

BAD-WEATHER BETTING—*The New York Times* (May 28, 1946) says that "22,584 fans brave bad weather to wager \$1,159,592" on eight horse races at Boston on May 27, 1946.

A NEW WORLD WAR—Representatives of 67 nations, 51 of which are members of the United Nations, have joined in a plan to fight the diseases of the world. In this fight let there be no conscientious objectors!

DIVORCE PEAK—According to Paul C. Glick, chief of the family statistics unit of the population division of the Government Census Bureau, Washington, D.C., the divorce rate in the United States will reach



its peak in 1947, "when the total will be just about twice the normal number and nearly 40% as large as the number of marriages." What he calls "normal" is a record of "about 300,000 divorces a year."

ANOTHER ARK—The U. S. S. Burleson, popularly referred to as "the ark," carried 200 goats, 200 pigs, and about 4,000 rats to Bikini Atoll to be used in the atomic bomb tests there last July.

BETTING MANIA—"Maryland Betting Records Crash with Average of \$1,042,048 a Day."—Headline in *The New York Times*, May 28, 1946.

SOMETHING BREWING?—(1) "The Distillers Corporation-Seagrams, Ltd., and its subsidiaries, in a report for the nine months ended April 30, disclosed yesterday a consolidated net profit of \$18,189,824 after all charges, including \$23,408,198 income and excess profits taxes."—*The New York Times*, June 22, 1946. (2) "Consolidated net profit of the Schenley Distillers Corporation for the nine months ended on May 31 amounted to \$37,756,023 after provisions for contingencies and taxes . . . the report disclosed yesterday. . . . This compares with the consolidated net profit of \$18,456,963 . . . for the corresponding period of the previous year. Earnings before Federal income and excess profits taxes were \$78,066,023 for the nine months ended with last May, compared with \$70,247,965 on the same basis, for the preceding year's period."—*The New York Times*, June 26, 1946.

ROME REPORTS—The Roman Catholic Church reports that she won 87,430 converts, baptized 705,557 infants, performed 245,261 marriages, and brought her membership up to 24,402,124 in the United States, Alaska, and the Hawaiian Islands in 1945.

U. S. WARS—"Six foreign wars and a civil conflict had cost the nation [of the United States] more than 1,000,000 lives. The loss in dollars, computed by the Bureau of Economic and Business Research of the University of Illinois, was appalling. Beginning with the Revolution and including the first world war, the costs ran to

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OUR TIMES

SEPTEMBER—1946

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The seasons are due to the inclination of the earth on its axis. (Photos by Galloway and Gendreau.)

The Miracle of the Seasons



Another Story of Heaven's Beneficence

By ARTHUR WARREN

WHAT a marvelously simple invention God designed to produce a summer and a winter! He just tilted the earth's axis!

That is the reason why farmers from Tennessee to Manitoba will have their harvests this autumn and every other autumn. Bumper crops of corn and wheat and oats, loads of peaches, plums, apples, pears, and strawberries are all a tribute to the Great Designer's wisdom. There is plenty of grass for the cattle, plenty for the sheep and the horses. Thanks be to the Father of all, Great Designer of the seasons!

But for this simple arrangement of the earth's axis we would have, perhaps, a climate like perpetual March throughout America. Most of the states would have no crops of grain, no potatoes, no fruit trees. With a continual March there would grow practically no food for man or beast in the British Isles or, indeed, in all Europe.

But, behold, the great Creator has tilted the axis of our planet so that we have summer and winter. About Christmas time, it is as though a strong hand, the hand of God, takes hold of our earth and gently begins to swing our countryside 3,000 miles nearer to the place of summer

sunlight, warmth, and fruitfulness. Thus the Scotsman in Aberdeen, who has had almost an Arctic cold in January, enjoys in July the climate of Cairo, Egypt, at its best. Huge crops of wheat grow in Russia where the winter has been most bitter. Thousands of square miles of wheat and corn appear in the central regions of the United States where the blizzard has howled its dirge in winter. Behold the miracle of the seasons!

The tilt of the earth makes it possible to grow garden produce in far away Alaska. And this, too, right up near the Arctic Circle, where in winter the temperature is about 50 degrees below zero, and where snowdrifts are as high as the houses. There the Eskimos grow huge crops of potatoes, cabbages up to 18 pounds in weight, and cauliflower, turnips, carrots, beets, parsnips, lettuce, onions, rhubarb, peas, radishes, and spinach. An 11-pound cauliflower, a 12-pound turnip, a 31-pound head of lettuce, and a 21-pound potato were displayed at an Eskimo exhibition.

Fifty varieties of flowers are grown in the gardens of Alaska, and a hundred wild ones outside. Around Fairbanks wheat and tomatoes are grown. Summer temperature there has risen to 99 degrees Fahren-

heit, says Evelyn Stefansson in her book *Here Is Alaska*, pp. 68, 69.

With the singing of birds in springtime, the earth turns to the summer clime so that seeds may germinate, flowers may bloom, fruits ripen, and harvests mature; so that our barns and stores may be filled with food. Instead of a perpetual March, a 1,500-mile-wide belt of land all around the northern hemisphere begins to bring forth food. The same thing happens six months later in the southern hemisphere.

Thousands and ten thousands of square miles of land are thus rendered fruitful, which otherwise would be barren forever had not God provided the wonder wrought by His tilting of the earth's axis—miracle of divine forethought and love.

This is the finger of God! "He left not Himself without witness, in that He did good, and gave us rain from heaven, and fruitful seasons, filling our hearts with food and gladness," declared the apostle Paul to the idolators of Lystra. Acts 14: 17.

This earth tilt is no accident. Other planets besides our own have the tilted axis which produces varying seasons. The axis of ruddy Mars, our next door neighbor, is tilted about 25 degrees, somewhat like that of the earth. It is said that

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SIXTY thousand people perished in six minutes! Half the earth was visibly shaken, and perhaps the whole world was rocked, on November 1, 1755. There was a reason why this mighty earthquake struck at the very heart of Christendom nearly 200 years ago.

Seventeen centuries before, the Spirit of God foretold in the prophecies of the Bible that a mighty earthquake would mark the breaking of the seal that would reveal to man the first sign of the nearness of the second advent of the world's Redeemer.

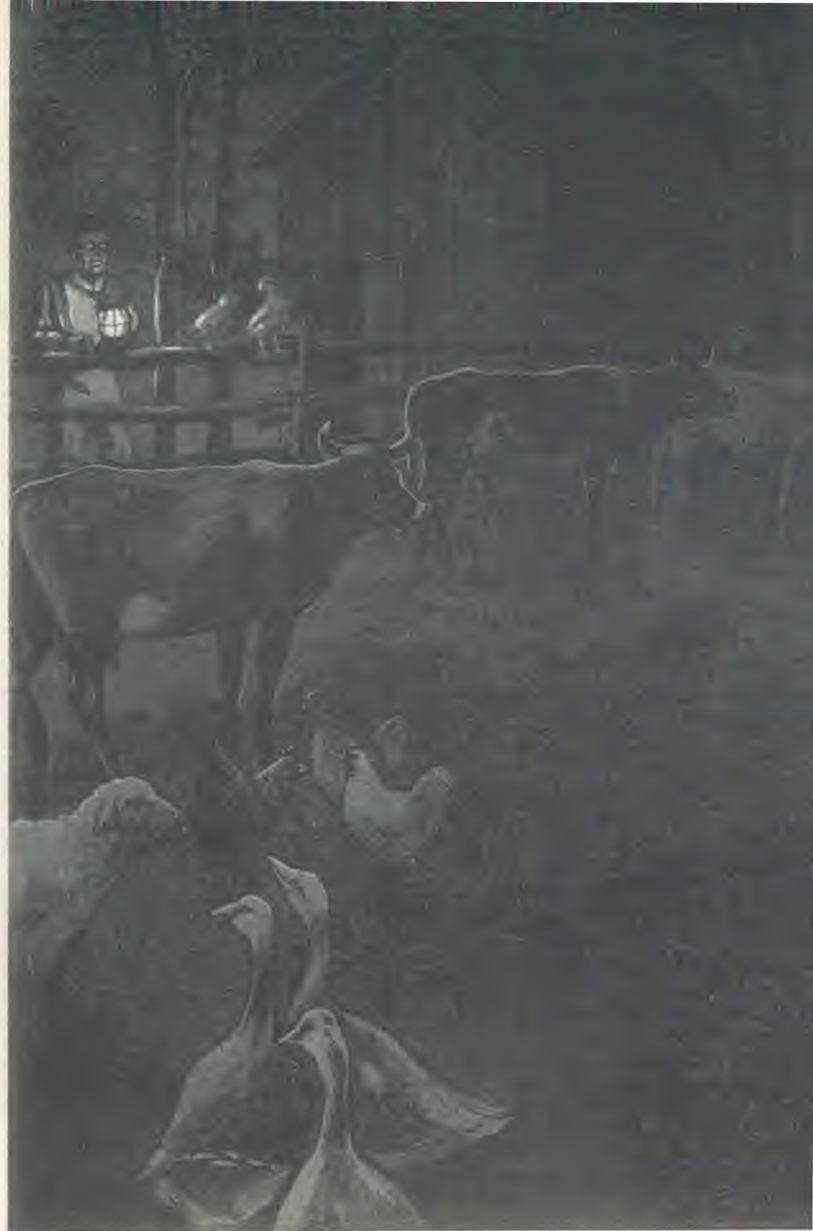
The Book of Revelation outlines certain phases of the history of Christianity in the seven seals. (Chapters 5-8.) Each broken seal revealed the opening of a new period in the history of the Christian church. The first four seals dealt with stages of the growing apostasy. The fifth seal proclaimed the great Reformation of the sixteenth century and the tremendous sacrifice of life paid by those who stood faithful to God in the Dark Ages. Then came the breaking of the sixth, which was to give the warning signs, in the heavens and in the earth, of the second coming of Christ before the breaking of the seventh would climax the history of Christianity by means of the second advent of Christ and the end of the world.

*"The Sun Became Black
as Sackcloth"*

John says: "I beheld when he had opened the sixth seal, and, lo, there was a great earthquake; and the sun became black as sackcloth of hair, and the moon became as blood; and the stars of heaven fell unto the earth, even as a fig tree casteth her untimely figs, when she is shaken of a mighty wind. And the heaven departed as a scroll when it is rolled together; and every mountain and island were moved out of their places."¹

"The great earthquake of 1755 extended over a tract of at least 4,000,000 square miles."² It is called "the Lisbon earthquake," but it shook the whole Christian world. "It pervaded the greater portions of the continents of Europe, Africa, and America."² "It is probable . . . that all Africa was shaken by this tremendous convulsion. At the north, it extended to Norway and Sweden; Germany, Holland, France, Great Britain, and Ireland were all more or less agitated by the same great and terrible commotion of the elements."² This great earthquake was also felt in Greenland. "Half the world felt the convulsion."³

The Lisbon earthquake was "one of the greatest and most powerful convulsions of which modern history gives us any detailed and reliable account, the great event



*The notable Dark Day of May 19, 1780, was foretold by several Bible writers.
(F. E. Robert, Artist.)*

AMERICA'S HISTORIC

The Sun Quit Shining on May 19, 1780

By GEORGE S. BELLEAU

of November 1, 1755, which destroyed the city of Lisbon."⁴

The Bible states that it was to be a "great" earthquake: "The effects of the earthquake of the first of November, 1755, were distributed over very nearly 4,000,000 of square English miles of the earth's surface; a most astonishing space! and greatly surpassing anything of this kind ever recorded in history."⁵ The people were impressed that it had something to do with the end of the world, for they ran and cried, "Misericordia; the world's at an end!"² "The earthquake had made all men thoughtful. They mistrusted their

love of drama, and filled the churches instead."⁶

Thirty-five years later God startled New England with the darkening of the sun on May 19, 1780. It was well called "the Dark Friday" in New England, and was interpreted by many as having something to do with the second coming of Christ.

As one looks through the scores of histories of the states and towns of New England, he finds many theories advanced to explain the cause of the Dark Day.

OUR TIMES, SEPTEMBER, 1946

In a letter written June 5, 1780, to his friend Ebenezer Hazard of New York, Dr. Jeremy Belknap of Dover, New Hampshire, said:

"What would you think of one who supposed the earth to be passing through the tail of a comet; and of another who thought the nucleus of one had interfered between us and the sun, so as to make an eclipse? How many more extravagant conceptions have been formed by men, whose minds one would think had been enlarged by reason and philosophy, I know not."⁷

Another explains the Dark Day as follows: "Several hypotheses have been advanced to account for this remarkable darkness, such as an eruption of a volcano in the interior of the continent, the burning of prairies, etc., but by the one advanced in the preceding article, it receives an easy explication. The regions at the southwest are known to be extremely productive, and to have been, at that period, deeply covered with forest and plants, whose leaves and perishable parts would be sufficient, during their decay, to fill the atmosphere to almost any extent; and nothing more would be necessary for the production of the phenomenon, than a change of atmospheric pressure, which should produce a sudden condensation, and a southwesterly wind."⁸

"Scientific men have differed as to the cause of this strange occurrence. It has been thought that some meteor, or other

be the cause may be rendered very certain. . . . Had the woods from the 40th degree of latitude in America to the 50th been all consumed in a day, the smoke would not have been sufficient to cloud the sun over the territory covered by the darkness on the 19th of May (1780). Any person can judge of this who has seen large tracts of forest fire. That 30 or 40 miles of burning forest should cover 500 miles with impenetrable darkness, is too absurd to deserve a serious refutation."¹¹

From the following newspaper articles, published June 3 and May 27, 1780, we get a picture of what transpired on that "Dark Friday."

The *Independent Chronicle* reported: "On Friday, May 19, 1780, at six o'clock in the morning at Pepperell the peals of thunder were loud and frequent, attended with heavy rain. At seven o'clock the rain and thunder had ceased; but the sky continued cloudy. Between nine and ten o'clock the clouds were observed to thicken, and to receive continual reinforcements from the lowlands. Before ten the darkness had sensibly increased, till it became difficult to read an almanack in a room with two windows. At eleven o'clock candles were lighted at Groton, and at half past eleven the darkness was so great in the meetinghouse, where a court was then sitting, that it was difficult to distinguish countenances, notwithstanding the great number of windows usual in such buildings. . . . At twelve the dark-

The same report goes on to say: "We dined about two, the windows all open, and two candles burning on the table. . . . In the time of the greatest darkness some of the dunghill fowls went to their roost: cocks, crowed in answer to one another as they commonly do in the night; woodcocks, which are night birds, whistled as they do only in the dark; frogs peeped—in short, there was the appearance of midnight at noon-day."¹³

In 1833 the *New England Magazine* told how the people had been affected by the Dark Day. It quoted a writer of 1780, who said: "Many were full in the belief that the day of judgment was come, and conducted themselves accordingly. Even when they found that the trumpet was not sounded, nor the dead raised, that the darkness was dissipated, and the regular succession of day and night restored, they imagined it a forerunner of some direful disaster, which the crying sins of a guilty land would speedily bring down upon it. For this they looked, with fear and trembling, for about two years, with painful anxiety, till our independence was acknowledged and peace proclaimed; when their dismal forebodings were lost in songs of joy and shouts of victory."¹⁴

This sign was seen all through New England and throughout New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Canada, and east into the Atlantic.¹⁵ It was as dark at four o'clock in the afternoon as it is on a moonless night at midnight.¹⁶

The many reasons given for this phenomenon show that there was no real explanation for the Dark Day that science could give. Each district seemed to have a different explanation. Perhaps more are of the opinion that it was due to a forest fire, but this explanation is not generally accepted as wholly satisfactory. I doubt very much that a fire the size that this would demand took place in the middle of May in New England. But we shall let science speak.

In *The Connecticut Gazette* of New London, May 26, 1780, the reporters acknowledged their "incapacity of describing the phenomenon which appeared in this town on Friday last, and shall therefore leave it to the astronomers, whose more particular business it is."¹⁷

Sir William Herschel, the British astronomer, dismissed the subject by saying: "The Dark Day in North America was one of those wonderful phenomena of nature which will always be read of with interest, but which philosophy is at a loss to explain."¹⁸

"Many theories were advanced as to the causes, but no definite scientific explanation was made," says another writer.¹⁹

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Blackout

wanderer through space came between the earth and the sun,"⁹ say Edward Miller and Frederic P. Wells. A Maine historian claims it was forest fires: "Among the marvellous, it excited interest and concern; and among all, curiosity was awakened to enquire for the cause. It is now conjectured to have been in consequence of the smoke arising from large and extensive fires in New Hampshire and Maine, and of a peculiar state of the atmosphere."¹⁰

But Noah Webster, who lived at the time, insisted that the Dark Day was not caused by forest fires. His report is: "That the smoke of burning forests cannot

ness was greatest and a little rain fell."¹²

The following observations were made by educated men at the home of Mr. Cutler, a clergyman of Ipswich Hamlet and recorded in the *Continental Journal*: "Friday morning early the sun appeared red, as it had done for several days before."¹³ And the account adds:

"At half past eleven, in a room with three windows, 24 panes each, all open towards the southeast and south, large print could not be read by persons of good eyes. About twelve o'clock the windows being still open, a candle cast a shade so well defined on the wall, as that profiles were taken with as much ease as they could have been in the night."¹³



Certainly the King Will Come

**We Have Abundant Promises
that He Will**

By WESLEY AMUNDSEN

for that event. Why were they to so pray? Because if the Christians would keep in mind the coming of the kingdom, they would also keep in mind the coming of the King. There can be no kingdom without a king. The two go together. Today the vital question in Christendom is, "Do we believe in the coming of the kingdom about which Christ taught His disciples to pray?"

Let us never forget that the setting up of the kingdom cannot take place until the King comes. The people of God who are to inhabit that glorious kingdom will not have that opportunity until Jesus shall return personally to conduct them into it.

The doctrine of the second coming of Christ is not a new one. It may be that because He has not come as yet, some may think that the scriptures referring to this coming are to be interpreted in a spiritual sense rather than in a literal one. But we would emphasize a thought that has been expressed so often in the pages of this magazine throughout the years, that the doctrine of the second advent of Christ constitutes the very keynote of the message of the Sacred Scriptures for our time. We stand today upon the very threshold of the fulfillment of the remaining prophecies that deal with this wonderful event.

The new and awesome scientific discoveries of our times, with their attendant possibilities either for the destruction or for the benefit of the human race, fill the hearts of men everywhere with a mixture of torturous fear and trembling hope.

In the midst of world confusion, widespread suffering, pestilence, crime waves, and disasters, there stands in the record of time a rough, wayside cross. There is no bright halo to glorify its crest. It is not covered with roses and drenched with their perfume. No, it is stained with blood, and a crown of thorns hangs from

The Christ who rose from the rocky tomb centuries ago is coming back soon to reign as King of kings. (Ender, Artist.)

WHEN General Douglas MacArthur was forced to leave the Philippines, he left behind him words of assurance which at the time seemed to be almost impossible of fulfillment. Said he, "I'll be back!"

Bataan and Corregidor fell to the enemy. The long, dreary night of imprisonment, death marches, torture, starvation, and despair settled down over military and civilian population alike.

After months of feverish preparation, MacArthur started back on the tedious and difficult trail of conquest. It was a hard road, one drenched with the blood of those who fought to make possible the victory which would set nations and men free. It was a road marked with little white crosses, indexing the supreme sacrifices of the effort. It was a costly effort in both men and material.

Then one day, after months and months of warfare, the conqueror stood in Manila. His words of three years previous were fulfilled, as he said, "I am back!" What a day of rejoicing that was for the people of the Philippines! To them General MacArthur was a savior of men.

Another conqueror has started on His way back to take over the control of His kingdom once more. This world has been invaded by the enemy of God and of men's souls. The words ring back from that day in Jerusalem when He said, "I will come again!" John 14:3. Yes, that is what Jesus said to His disciples, and He told them to pass on this good word down through the ages so that all men might look for that return which will mean the deliverance of the human race from the bondage of sin.

Millions are dying year after year without hope of deliverance. Sin has blanketed the world with its hideous mantle of lawlessness. Is there no hope of deliverance? Is there no prospect that the Deliverer will come speedily and open the prison house and thus set the captives free? Will Jesus really come to set up that promised kingdom wherein will be everlasting righteousness?

Those who are acquainted with the Lord's Prayer will recall that one of the salient points of that petition is: "Thy kingdom come." Christians in all parts of the world and in every age have prayed

one of its crimsoned arms. That cross stands as a pledge to the human race. It testifies of a price paid for victory over sin. It is the pledge made by an innocent Victim who suffered and died as a criminal, but who overcame death and is alive again. It is the pledge of the return of the King to receive His subjects. It stands forth as a beacon of hope for the lovers of righteousness and of Christ.

The promise made by the King almost 2,000 years ago rings out in all its clearness in our age. We need to unstop our spiritual ears in order to hear Him say: "If I go, . . . I will come again." John 14: 3.

"Enoch also, the seventh from Adam, prophesied of these, saying, Behold, the Lord cometh with ten thousands of His saints." Verse 14.

What a glorious hope Enoch had! You will recall that he is the prophet who walked with God 300 years. As he looked down the corridor of time, his prophetic eye pierced through the black centuries ahead and saw the Lord coming in all His grandeur.

We who live today are not much different from those who lived in the early days of the Christian church. Many disbelieved the word of God then, and many disbelieve today. Some were confused in

coming of our Lord Jesus Christ." 2 Peter 1: 16. No fables were acceptable to the believers of the primitive apostolic church. They understood that the second coming of Christ would be a certain one.

Paul, in his letter to the Hebrews, called upon the church to hold steady amidst the swarm of unbiblical teachings regarding the second coming of Jesus. Some were wavering in the faith; their confidence was being shaken. Then came the letter from that mighty soldier of the cross. Like a clear trumpet note it sounded forth amid the slowly developing apostasy: "Cast not away therefore your confidence, which hath great recompense of reward. For ye have need of patience, that, after ye have done the will of God, ye might receive the promise. For yet a little while, and He that shall come will come, and will not tarry. Now the just shall live by faith." Hebrews 10: 35-38.

"Confidence!" The word has almost lost its significance today. In whom, or in what, may we have confidence? Only in God and His truth. The world is filled with distrust. No nation trusts the other. Men do not trust one another. But God calls out, through His apostolic agent, "Cast not away, therefore, your confidence." Christ has said that He will come again. Believe what He says. He will come; He will not delay that coming any longer than is necessary. Hold steady in the hurricanes of doubt and fear that assail the human heart. Keep your soul anchored to the eternal Rock of ages. Christ is coming! Christ will come! Say it over and over again! Sing it! Talk it! Believe it! Prepare for it!

Plucked from the Press

(Continued from page 2)

\$52,000,000,000. The second world war alone cost \$320,000,000,000. Military pensions and other veterans' compensation, as well as interest on the public debt, boosted the total to \$414,000,000,000 for the entire period."—*Newsweek*, June 3, 1946, p. 25.

VITAL STATISTICS—"In the United States, during 1945, a baby was born every 11½ seconds; in spite of deaths (one every 22½ seconds) the United States' population increased by 153 every hour."—*Time*, May 27, 1946, p. 23.

MERGER?—The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America announced in June of this year "that a plan of merger with the Protestant Episcopal Church—pending since 1937—would be published within six weeks by the Episcopalians. Both bishops and presbyteries would function simultaneously."—*Newsweek*, June 10, 1946, p. 82.



THY KINGDOM COME

By MARY LOUISE STETSON

Thy kingdom come, O Lord, within these hearts of me and mine
That this, our earthly home, be governed by Thy laws divine.

Thy kingdom come, O Lord, within the hearts of those who plan
Our nation's policies. Grant wisdom yet unknown to man.

Thy kingdom come, O Lord, within each human heart of Thine,
That this, our world of strife, be worthy of Thy love divine.

When Paul wrote to the church at Corinth regarding the sacredness of the holy communion—the Lord's Supper—he repeated the words that Christ uttered just prior to His death upon the cross: "For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do show the Lord's death till He come." 1 Corinthians 11: 26.

Whenever Christians partake of the bread and the wine at the communion table of the Lord, when they call to mind His broken body and His spilled blood, they are to look ahead by faith and see Him coming to take them into His kingdom. Thus we have the pledge of His second coming in the broken body and the shed blood.

In the letter of Jude we read that

their thinking as to the certainty of the coming of Christ. There were many theories propounded then. Some thought His coming would be a spiritual event, the coming of Jesus to the heart of the individual at his conversion. Others taught that His coming would be in secret. Some taught that He would come at the death of the Christian to carry his soul to heaven. But God chose men of faith who would consent to be guided by the Holy Spirit and inspired them to write out the truth of the matter so that the church in future ages need not go astray on this vital subject.

So Peter wrote that "we have not followed cunningly devised fables, when we made known unto you the power and

Who Wrote the Bible?



THE BIBLE is written in the words of men, but it conveys to us the message of God. The men who wrote this book passed on to posterity not merely their own learning, but they gave to the world the wisdom of Heaven. The Bible is God's book. It is rightly called "the word of God." When man reads it, he knows that he is reading something vastly different from the ordinary literature of men—he knows that he is in contact with an unseen force and power—that he is in the presence of God.

The Bible was written by men who were men of God. "Holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost." 2 Peter 1: 21. These men did not all live at one time, nor in one country. They did not all come from the same walks of life, and did not possess the same advantages of education or culture. Some of them were men of the keenest intellect and were trained in the most advanced schools of their time. Some of them were humble shepherds or farmers; among them were craftsmen, a tax collector, a physician, and scribes. Some of these men were priests by profession, while others were prophets; some followed the calling of pastor or teacher, while others were judges, lawgivers, governors, or kings. But whatever was their station in life, and the worldly calling they pursued, those men had one thing in common, and that was their acquaintance with God.

Nehemiah was a cupbearer for Artaxerxes Longimanus, king of Persia (465-425 B.C.), but we remember him today not for his service in the palace of an oriental monarch, but rather for his unselfish de-

A Look at the Book of Books

By EDWIN R. THIELE

votion to the cause of God. Esther became the queen of Ahasuerus (Xerxes) of Persia (485-465 B.C.), but her renown today is based not on her gracious charm or incomparable beauty, but on the fact that at the peril of her life she threw her lot in with that of her countrymen, who were oppressed exiles in Persia and the children of God. Midst the wisdom and wealth of Babylon, Daniel achieved renown as the wisest of the wise. (Daniel 1: 19, 20.) He attained immortal fame not on account of any worldly wisdom that was his, but because in the service of a pagan king his first thoughts were of the God whom he had learned to love and obey, and to whom he resolved to be true at all cost. "Moses was learned in all the wisdom of the Egyptians" (Acts 7: 22), yet we remember him today not for his knowledge of the ancient lore of the land of the Pharaohs, but rather for the fact that he walked and talked with God, and commended his people to the care and mercy of the God of Jeshurun.

The patriarch Job was a great man in the land of Uz, wealthy, wise and revered, but today we give heed to his words of wisdom because he "was perfect and upright, and one that feared God, and eschewed evil." Job 1: 1. David was a man

of strength and courage, both as shepherd and king. He was a hero in a land of heroes. As a youth he delivered his lambs from the mouths of bears and lions; and armed with only a stone and a sling, he slew the mighty Goliath. Yet his greatest fame comes not from his battles against the hosts of Philistia and Ammon, but as the great poet and singer of Israel, who wrote of the Lord as his Shepherd and his Guide through the valley of the shadow of death.

Would we today listen to a voice speaking from heaven? Would we draw aside the curtain and see God in His beauty and holiness, seated upon the throne of His glory? Would we turn aside from the cares and the turmoil of earth and hear a still small voice from above speaking once more its message of mercy and love and duty? All this and more may be ours, if we would only study and obey that Sacred Volume which has come to us from God's holy prophets of old to speak to us the words and the message of heaven. It was Moses who in the quietness and solitude of the Midian desert heard the voice of the Eternal say: "Put off thy shoes from off thy feet, for the place whereon thou standest is holy ground. . . . I am the God of thy father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob." Exodus 3: 5, 6. When Moses heard God's call, he accepted it and became a spokesman for the Lord of heaven. It is for our benefit, "upon whom the ends of the world are come" (1 Corinthians 10: 11), that his messages are recorded in God's holy word.

Isaiah it was to whom the portals of heaven were opened to see the "Lord

God "at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets." Hebrews 1: 1. (Sargent, Artist.)



sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up, and His train filled the temple. . . . And one cried unto another, and said, Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord of hosts: the whole earth is full of His glory." Isaiah 6: 1, 3. It was then that the seer heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?" And Isaiah responded, "Here am I; send me." Verse 8. From that moment this young man became a spokesman for God. And in the unparalleled messages that came from his pen we may hear again the voice of God speaking to us in words of kindly admonition, stern rebuke, and tender entreaty.

It was Jeremiah who, as a humble youth, heard a voice speaking to him: "Before thou camest forth out of the womb I sanctified thee, and I ordained thee a prophet unto the nations." Jeremiah 1: 5. Trembling with fear, the timid lad gave answer to the One speaking from heaven: "Ah, Lord God! Behold, I cannot speak: for I am a child." Verse 6. But the Lord said to him: "Say not, I am a child: for thou shalt go to all that I shall send thee, and whatsoever I command thee thou shalt speak. Be not afraid of their faces: for I am with thee to deliver thee." Then the Lord put out His hand, and touched Jeremiah's mouth, and said: "Behold, I have put my words in thy mouth." Verses 7-9. Would we today know the secret of those words committed to Jeremiah by the great Lord of heaven and earth? They are recorded in Jeremiah's prophecy, one of the outstanding books of the Prophets—which form such an important part of the Holy Bible—that we might have them today.

God also spoke to Ezekiel, Micah, Joel, Amos, Haggai, Zephaniah, Paul, Luke, and John. All these were men of God and messengers for Him. They heard the voice of Heaven speaking to them, and they gave ear, recording for their times and for ours the wonderful words of mercy and life and hope which our heavenly Father had for the children of men.

Of all the books ever penned by man, there is no other that can compare with this. It is God's Book, not man's. Its messages are not human, but divine. In this Book is love, and life, and hope. In it we find comfort and consolation, light and guidance. In it we find instruction in the most important things of life. When we read this book, we are lifted above the darkness and cares of earth into the sweetness of fellowship with God. Here are opened to us the gates of Paradise.

Man needs the Book. In all the years of history there never was a time when this book meant so much to the world as it does today. If there is a book of the year, this

(Continued on page 18)

IN THE NEW TESTAMENT PLATFORM

By HOWARD J. CAPMAN

THE PLANKS of a political party's platform adopted in national convention express specifically the political faith of that party. When John Q. Public hears the party platform planks explained, he then can vote intelligently for the candidates who stand foursquare upon that in which he believes.

The platform of American liberty is our Constitution. When the president-elect of the United States is sworn into his high office under solemn judicial oath, he promises to uphold, defend, and protect the Constitution of the United States. It is the duty of the Supreme Court of the United States to loyally uphold the Constitution, safeguarding the principles of this historic document in every legal decision this august judicial body hands down.

While some persons would alter the Constitution, and cast it aside as useless, it is clearly the duty of all loyal, liberty-loving Americans to uphold and protect it, completely disregarding the opinions of those who declare it outworn, outmoded, and fit only for the horse-and-buggy days.

There are individuals, even some religious teachers, who ridicule the Ten Commandments as out of date, as belonging to a Mosaic Age, and no longer to be kept by Christians. When President Franklin D. Roosevelt was told that the principles of the Atlantic Charter were being violated, he promptly replied, "Many people do not live up to the Ten Commandments, but that's no reason to discard

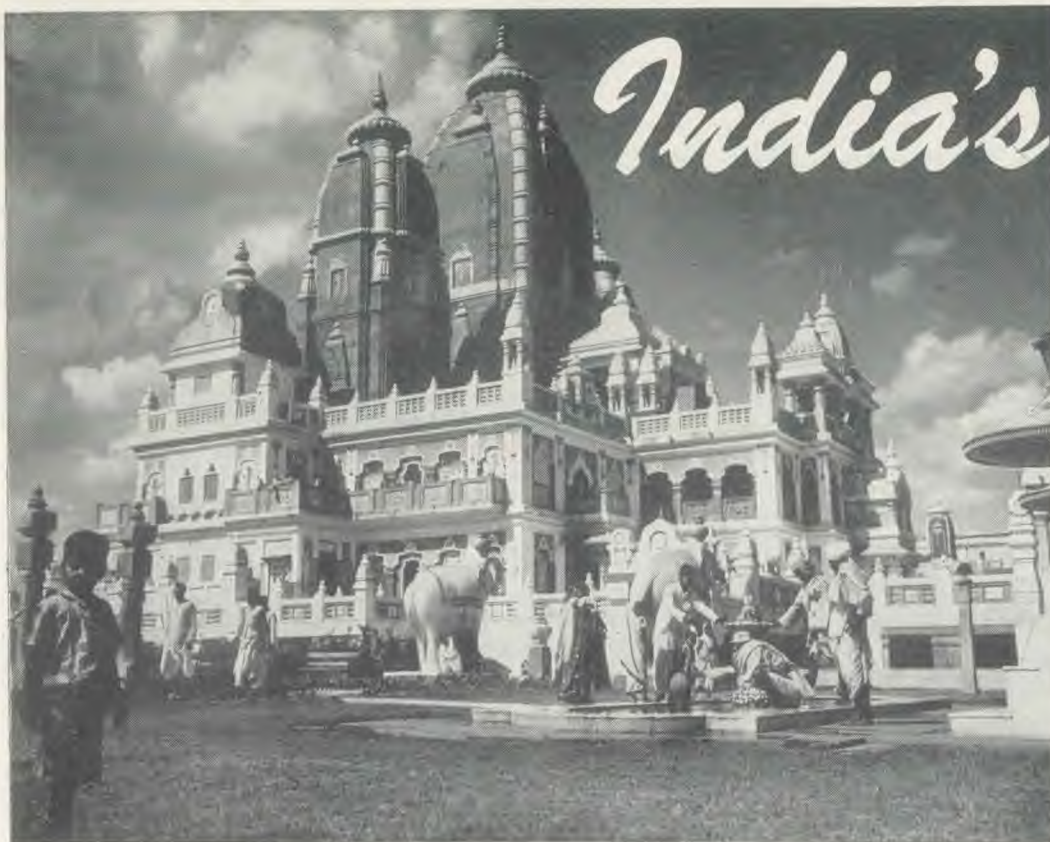
them. They are a pretty good mark to shoot at."

Alexander Cruden, in his complete Bible Concordance, comments upon the scriptural phrase "keep the commandments" in the following words: "To retain or hold fast; to remember; to defend and protect; to observe and practice; to celebrate; to perform fully and perfectly." Mr. Cruden's words, "to defend and protect; to observe and practice," will meet with the approval of all people who respect the laws of God and the nation. Because the laws of the land are founded upon the Ten Commandments, all good people regard them. The lawless and criminally inclined individual disregards both the Constitution of the country and the laws of God.

Paul, the apostle to the Gentiles, instructs New Testament Christians to esteem and obey the commandments of God. He proclaims, "Circumcision is nothing; the want of it is nothing; but to keep the commands of God is everything." 1 Corinthians 7: 19, *The Twentieth Century New Testament*. (Fleming H. Revell Co.) "Circumcision is nothing, and uncircumcision is nothing; obedience to God's commandments is everything." 1 Corinthians 7: 19, Weymouth. Thus the apostle of the Christian age is in perfect harmony with Solomon, the sage of the ancients, who advised: "Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep His commandments: for this is the whole duty of man." Ecclesiastes 12: 13.

The New Testament Teaching Concerning the Keeping of God's Ten Commandments Is as Follows:

1. "If thou wilt enter into life, keep the commandments." Matthew 19: 17.
2. "If ye love Me, keep My commandments." John 14: 15.
3. "He that hath My commandments, and keepeth them, he it is that loveth Me." John 14: 21.
4. "And hereby we do know that we know Him, if we keep His commandments." 1 John 2: 3.
5. "He that saith, I know Him, and keepeth not His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him." 1 John 2: 4.
6. "And whatsoever we ask, we receive of Him, because we keep His commandments, and do those things that are pleasing in His sight." 1 John 3: 22.
7. "And he that keepeth His commandments dwelleth in Him, and He in him." 1 John 3: 24.
8. "This is the love of God, that we keep His commandments." 1 John 5: 3.
9. "Here are they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus." Revelation 14: 12.
10. "Blessed are they that do His commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city." Revelation 22: 14.



This beautiful temple in New Delhi represents the ancient heathen past of India. (Keystone photo.)

India's Call

The Future

showing how that power changes lives.

Pastor C. Moses, superintendent of the South Tamil Mission, reports: "Two of our lay preachers, Monikam and Isaiah, started on a trip around the seacoast to preach the gospel, and they went to a place called Kulasekaratnam. Finding some interest here, they stayed and began to preach. While they were preaching one day, opposition arose and their meeting was disturbed suddenly. One in-

dividual came forward, maintained order, and asked our men to continue their message. They thanked God for this timely help. The Lord blessed the efforts of our brethren in this place, and about five souls accepted the message.

"One of these believers, a man named Simon Doson, was previously a drunkard and one of the leading rascals in that community. Even the leaders of other churches had to keep quiet when he interfered with any of their problems. So when this man came to us, those church leaders were happy. The day for the first baptism came and there was some concern and uneasiness among the villagers because one of the candidates was Simon Doson.

"We now have a church in that place. At the time when I conducted the first communion service there, I invited the people to give their experiences, and the wife of Simon Doson gave the following testimony:

"I thank the mission for bringing the message here. My husband was a drunkard. He used to drink every day, and he beat me and treated me very cruelly; but now he is a new man. He loves me and cares for the family."

INDIA is much in the minds of statesmen of many countries today. Her desire for self-government and her important position during the recent war has brought this country into more prominence recently. Indeed, politically the future of India is definitely related to the future of all the countries in Asia and, therefore, to that of the world. It is not only Great Britain's chief problem, but it must be also the concern of the entire world. The problem at present is somewhat like that of the man who, according to the old story, had a mad dog by the ears. He understood the spirit of the animal and wanted to let it go, but the problem confronting him was how to do it without danger to himself and others. Great Britain honestly desires to grant self-government to India, but the question is how best to do it in view of the lack of unity among the main political parties, and the present political temper, of the people.

Notwithstanding the great difficulties and problems, we hope a satisfactory solution will be found. Then will come great and important changes. In all that transpires the church of Christ will need vision and leadership.

India and all South Asia furnishes a mighty challenge to the best in Christian leadership and the best in all Christian institutions. It is doubtless in this country that every Christian minister and layman is most critically watched for a practical example demonstrating what is

claimed for the religion of Christ. If a man is a hypocrite, the Indian is the first to discover it; and he is not too charitable with one who professes so much but fails to practice it.

It is evident to me that the influence of the more than 8,000,000 Christians upon the customs and lives of the people of India has had a very definite effect. Though in the home and in the community, there still is much to be desired, conditions have become more favorable, so that now many women are free to exercise a larger influence upon the country. The position of the more than 60,000,000 outcasts also has been greatly changed. As the churches and Christian schools are opened to both caste people and outcasts alike, some Indian villages and native states have been led to open Hindu temples to the scheduled castes, and in many other ways the baneful caste system is giving way before Christian influence especially; but doubtless there are also other forces, perhaps indirectly influenced by Christianity, which are at work to break down these social and religious barriers.

In our mission work we are greatly encouraged as we see evidences of the power of God working through the gospel of Christ to change lives. After all, the greatest triumphs of the gospel are seen in changed lives rather than in the establishment of great institutions, though these are very helpful. Changed lives result in changed homes, and bring about a changed community. Here are some illustrations



and Challenge

ions in the Balance

L. HAM

"Simon Doson was the man who restored order in the meeting when our brethren first went to preach in this place. The government has chosen Simon Doson to be the War Welfare officer. The pastor of another mission church has said that if a man like Simon Doson could be changed in this manner by the Adventists, then he would like to give some more men of the same type to the Adventists and so be free from all their trouble-making."

In this land we often see such evidences of the power of the gospel. Like the apostle Paul, we are led to exclaim: "I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation." Romans 1: 16.

Another Experience

Here is another experience told by the same worker: "A Hindu family was troubled by evil spirits. There were eight members in the family, and about ten months previously the husband had passed away. The surviving members of the family were suffering from physical sickness, and received no rest from the evil one. Doctors and magicians tried to give help, but finally gave up hope. Three members of the family were expected to die. The oldest child was eighteen years old, and the magicians said he would die on September 26. The family was in great fear, and the people were afraid to attempt to help them because of the evil spirits.

"Finally, the mother in this home came to Brother Abraham, a lay preacher, and told her pitiable story. This gave him an opportunity to tell her about Jesus, and to suggest that they have prayer for the family in their house. Brother Abraham and another brother began to conduct prayer meetings with this family, asking God that they might recover from their sickness and that the spirits be rebuked.

"The date when the magicians said the oldest boy would die came and passed. The boy still lives, and from that day onward the family have been enjoying good health and have not been bothered any more by the spirits. The entire village has been astonished at the result of prayer on behalf of this family."

Sometimes, when we see the faith in prayer manifested by simple-hearted lay workers, and also on the part of those for whom prayer is offered, we recall the words the Master said when the centurion came to Him with the request that He come and heal his servant. Says the Scripture:

"Jesus saith unto him, I will come and heal him. The centurion answered and said, Lord, I am not worthy that Thou shouldest come under my roof: but speak the word only, and my servant shall be healed. For I am a man under authority, having soldiers under me: and I say to this man, Go, and he goeth; and to another, Come, and he cometh; and to my servant, Do this, and he doeth it. When Jesus heard it, He marvelled, and said to them that followed, Verily I say unto you, I have not found so great faith, no, not in Israel. And I say unto you, That many shall come from the east and west, and shall sit down with Abraham, and Isaac, and Jacob, in the kingdom of heaven: but the children of the kingdom shall be cast out into outer darkness: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth. And Jesus said unto the centurion, Go thy way; and as thou hast believed, so be it done unto thee. And his servant was healed in the selfsame hour." Matthew 8: 7-13.

At times, when we see such strong faith manifested by these simple people, we wonder if we can find such manifestations of prayer and faith in groups of

These representatives of the Christian faith in India attended the General Conference session of Seventh-day Adventists held in Washington, D.C., last June. (T. K. Martin photo.)

Christians who have had far better opportunities and have had a long background of Christian experience.

God does honor the prayer of faith in Hindustan today, and also gives men strength to remain true to Him amidst severe persecution. This story of a recent convert will serve to illustrate the spirit of loyalty to God and also the happy outcome of a very trying experience. Note the part prayer played in this story as related to me. Here is the report:

"A heathen woman accepted Christ as her Saviour and was buried with her Lord in baptism. This greatly enraged her heathen husband, and he severely beat her in a heathenish fashion. Instead of resenting this cruel treatment, or becoming angry, she prostrated herself at his feet, showed more love for her undeserving husband, and prayed for his conversion. She kept on praying.

"One Sabbath she went home late from church services. Her husband was at home and had waited an hour for his food to be served. This provoked him, and he gave her a severe thrashing, ending by telling her he was through with her and that she could no longer be his wife. For a week he cooked his own food and ignored her entirely, but she kept on praying for his conversion, always manifesting a true Christian spirit.

"Her prayers were heard and answered. The influence of the Holy Spirit melted his
(Continued on page 19)





Bible Distribution in 1945

A DISTRIBUTION of 12,243,355 copies of Bibles, Testaments, and portions of the Bible during 1945 was accomplished by the American Bible Society. The Scriptures were circulated in 114 different languages. The average distribution for the preceding decade was 8,251,197. More than 1,500,000 copies were sent to prisoners of war. The society supplied 1,682,932 copies to displaced persons, to those in liberated areas and to others as a part of its war emergency program.

The American Bible Society has under preparation the publication of the first Braille concordance of the Bible for the blind. It will require 10 large volumes. The society hoped that the concordance would be ready for distribution about July 15.



At a Frightening Pace

IMAGINE that sedate old newspaper *The New York Times* using this headline—"Frightening Pace of Inventions." Believe it or not, that is the title given to a two-column article in the "Science and Invention" section of that paper on June 9, 1946. The writer quotes a sociologist as saying:

"We may liken the progress of mankind to that of a man 100 years old, who dawdles through kindergarten for 85 years, takes 10 years to go through primary grades, then rushes with lightning rapidity through grammar school, high school, and college."

The greatly accelerated speed of travel, and the tremendously increased destructive range and power of weapons of war, figure most notably among man's latter-day inventions.

On May 31 the *Official Gazette* of the United States Patent Office listed 424 new inventions for the past week, among which was a motion-picture camera capable of taking photographs at the rate of 1,000,000 a minute. On June 11 it was announced in London that Sir Malcom Campbell, holder of the world's speed record of 141 miles an hour in a boat on water, would attempt to do better this fall by using a jet-propelled vessel. The 60-year-old British "speed demon" set the present record in 1939, in the *Blue Bird II*, whose hull he intends to use in the next try.

Yes, this dizzy old world is hurrying on

at an ever-increasingly rapid pace to its date with destiny. The prophet Daniel, told that prophetic messages contained in his divinely inspired scroll were penned especially for our time, was bidden: "Shut up the words, and seal the book, even to the time of the end: many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall be increased." Daniel 12: 4.

If there ever was a time when men were noted for their running to and fro, it is now. And on every hand knowledge is being increased by every available means—printing, photography, telephone, telegraph, radio, etc. But best of all is the widespread publication of the Holy Scriptures—now in 1,068 tongues—that the honest in heart may know that we are in "the time of the end." God has planned it so. Jesus said: "This gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come." Matthew 24: 14.



Survival after Death?

FOR MANY years Professor J. B. Rhine, of Duke University, has been dabbling in psychic phenomena, especially telepathy and clairvoyance. In the latter part of June of this year he told the World Faiths Round-Table group at a luncheon in New York City that he has proved to his satisfaction the existence of "the non-physical properties of the mind," which the popular press says is equivalent to saying, "the possession of a soul by man." He added that "some form of survival after

bodily death is a theoretical possibility." (See *Newsweek*, June 24, 1946, p. 58.)

Religionists who preach the doctrine of "the immortality of the soul"—an expression that does not appear even once in Holy Scripture—will rejoice in the professor's announcement. But as for us and our house, we will follow the Lord, who says: "The living know that they shall die, but the dead know not any thing, neither have they any more a reward; for the memory of them is forgotten. Also their love, and their hatred, and their envy, is now perished; neither have they any more a portion for ever in any thing that is done under the sun." His admonition is: "Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might; for there is no work, nor device, nor knowledge, nor wisdom, in the grave, whither thou goest." Ecclesiastes 9: 5, 6, 10.

We prefer a "Thus saith the Lord" to any professor's "theoretical possibility," however sincere that man's opinion may be. Our Maker says that "the dead know not any thing," and that their memory of things past is forgotten at death, at which time also their feelings of love, hatred, and

At Fordham University, a Roman Catholic institution, President Harry S. Truman received an honorary degree of Doctor of Laws. He is shown ringing a bell taken from the Japanese carrier *Junyo*, which was presented to the university by Admiral Chester W. Nimitz. (Acme photo.)



envy disappear, because all the functions of his mind cease when a man dies.

The Holy Spirit's warning is: "Put not your trust in princes, nor in the son of man, in whom there is no help." Psalm 146: 3. And He tells why: "His breath goeth forth, he returneth to his earth; in that very day his thoughts perish." Verse 4. In other words, there can be no functioning of the human mind apart from the living body. When the brain dies, the thought processes cease.

We rejoice, however, to say that the hope of life after death is a certain one. It is not based on any theory that man has inherent immortality, but upon the fact that Christ "hath brought life and immortality to light through the gospel." 2 Timothy 1: 10. God gave His beloved Son to the world "that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life." John 3: 16. Thus immortality—the ability to live eternally—is not something that we already possess by nature, but it is a gift that God has promised to those who believe in His Son. "The wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord." Romans 6: 23.

Concerning the man who believes in Him, Christ says: "I will raise him up at the last day." John 6: 40, 54. "Marvel not at this," says He: "for the hour is coming, in the which all that are in the graves shall hear His voice, and shall come forth; they that have done good, unto the resurrection of life; and they that have done evil, unto the resurrection of damnation." John 5: 28, 29. But only the righteous have been promised the precious boon of an undying existence, which will be theirs when they shall be invested with incorruption (immunity to disease) and immortality (immunity to death) at the second coming of Christ and the resurrection of the dead.

"For the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality. So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory." 1 Corinthians 15: 52-54.



An Atomic Armageddon?

WORLD War III has been well named "an atomic Armageddon" by one of the nation's news reviewers. The possibilities for the use of atomic energy as a destructive weapon in the next world war have become the nightmare of statesmen, philosophers, and militarists.

OUR TIMES, SEPTEMBER, 1946

He Drew Me Back

By Nathaniel Krum

When all was bright and well with me
And life seemed but a dream,
I turned my thoughts toward the world,
And drifted with the stream.

But God in mercy drew me back,
He sent calamity,
That I, who'd wandered far away,
Again His face might see.

The following statement, made by Colonel S. B. Ritchie, acting chief of the research and development service of the United States Army, before the House Appropriations Committee on June 22 of this year, is typical of what leading men are thinking about the next global conflict.

"We must expect other nations will develop missiles capable of crossing oceans," said Colonel Ritchie. "Counter-measure missiles are therefore included in our over-all program. The guided missile has suddenly become one of the most important weapons of today. It takes little stretch of the imagination to envisage a perimeter rocket defense of the United States. We cannot discount the possibility of launching from underground sites loads of atomic retribution for delivery in an hour on an enemy in any part of the globe." (See *The New York Times*, June 23, 1946.)

Commenting on the possibility of an atomic struggle between the United States and Russia, *The United States News* (May 31, 1946) points out "that planes based along the sixty-fifth parallel, near the Arctic Circle, can reach across the North Pole and strike as far south as the thirtieth parallel. Hence, it is obvious that, using such planes and operating from bases in northern Canada, the United States could drop atomic or other bombs anywhere in Europe and as far south in Asia as northern India. For her part, Russia, using similar planes and operating from bases well within her own northern coast line, could drop bombs as far south as New Orleans."

The article adds: "There is recognition that the opening phase of the next big-scale war, if it comes, will be a repetition of the surprise attack at Pearl Harbor, but on a vaster scale."

According to Revelation 16: 12, something of tremendous international import is going to happen some day to the regions watered by the Euphrates, "that the way

of the kings [governments] of the East might be prepared." We do not venture to speculate as to what the exact nature of this coming event will be. But we are plainly told that satanic influences in the world will be the principal means of precipitating the nations into that great, final struggle. The seer says that in vision he was shown "the spirits of devils, working miracles, which go forth unto the kings of the earth and of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty." Verse 14.

Note that it will be a global struggle, for it will involve "the kings of the earth and of the whole world." Every government on earth will be involved. Both the United States and Russia will act their parts in this contest. The apostle saw the mighty of the earth gathered "together into a place called in the Hebrew tongue Armageddon." Verse 16. Armageddon—"the Hill of Megiddo"—is located near the plain of Esdraelon in northern Palestine. This indicates that the Middle East will be the focal point of humanity's last world war before the second advent of Christ.

Then God will utter the irrevocable decree: "It is done." Verse 17. Then He will intervene in the affairs of men, and bring mankind's long tragedy of sin to a close. Then He will "destroy them which destroy the earth." Revelation 11: 18. Then He will fight against the forces of evil that are bent on dominating the world. (Revelation 11: 19; 16: 17-21; 19: 11-21.) Then "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." Daniel 7: 27. It will be a losing battle for all, except those who remain true to God.

OUR COVER

THE COVER picture for this issue of OUR TIMES was supplied by Monkmeyer, 225 Fifth Avenue, New York City 10, New York.

He Heals before He Wounds

(Continued from page 20)

balm for your healing, weal for your woe.

He makes provision for you to bear your troubles before they come. "There hath no temptation [test] taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it." 1 Corinthians 10: 13. Let Him have His way in your life, for "all things work together for good to them that love the Lord." Romans 8: 28.

Let's Mobilize against ACCIDENTS in the HOME

Thousands Die from
Needless Household Injuries

By COLONEL GEORGE A. SKINNER, M. D.
Medical Corps, U. S. Army, Retired

THE MODERN home is one of the danger spots of our civilization. We used to say, "Safe at home." But because one is in his own house it does not follow that he is secure. Accidents in the homes of our country now are numbered by millions; and of these, an average of about 25,000 a year are fatal.

This statement may startle some, but too many have become so accustomed to reading and hearing about home accidents, that they are, like automobile accidents, more or less taken for granted and as a necessary accompaniment to modern living. This ought not to be the case, for it is easy to see that the greater number of accidents, both great and small, are due to carelessness, thoughtlessness, procrastination, hurry, lack of easily provided safeguards, poor lighting, and ignorance of dangers. Most of these conditions and causes can be remedied when once we make up our minds that it is necessary. And putting off little protections that we know about, but do not immediately correct, is by no means the least of the possible causes of injuries in the home.

An emergency is defined as "a sudden and unexpected occurrence." This means that most of the home as well as the other

*Home is not so safe a place
as many suppose. (H. M.
Lambert photo.)*

emergencies are quick in happening, and although we may have known of such possibilities, the real accident is always a surprise. Sometimes we gamble, as it were, on the possibility, taking a chance that it won't happen, as when we step on a chair, well knowing that it will tip if the weight gets too close to the edge. Many times we "get away" with such practices, but sooner or later, either through our speed or our carelessness, or both, the chair tips, and we get a bad fall, often resulting in a broken wrist. I have seen this occur many times. A moment more taken to place a safe stepladder would have averted the accident.

The early attention to household accidents—the giving of "first aid"—is of great importance. The value of knowing what to do and how to do it at once is very great. But sometimes the value of

knowing what not to do is still greater. In the excitement that follows injury, particularly in the case of poisoning, people are likely to become excited and "rattled," losing much time in useless motions. It is under such circumstances that a person who is deliberate and cool can get much more done.

Practically anyone can master the elements of first aid in a short time. Where the Red Cross is giving courses in this art, the "know how" can be acquired there. We can only guess at the number of lives that have been saved, and the cases of suffering shortened or prevented, by this training. Such skill cannot be acquired without effort, but there are few accomplishments of more value to an individual.

Heavy loss of blood is always serious. In the case of wounds with severe bleeding, early control by direct pressure is the best first aid.

Prevention or reduction of shock after injury is needed. Three first-aid measures in order of value are: (1) heat, (2) position, and (3) stimulants.



The training may start with children who are quite young, and we see very fine examples of this work in the Junior Red Cross and in the Boy and the Girl Scouts. The knowledge can be largely obtained from written instructions also, and it is to call attention to the need for this instruction, to indicate the more rapid and easy methods of action in emergencies, and particularly to suggest that accidents may be prevented in the home, that this series of articles is presented.

Always, as soon as the patient has been given the absolutely necessary care to insure safety, the physician should be called. We may have acquired considerable ability in the care of emergencies, but the skill necessary to care for injuries is only acquired by years of professional experience, and no one should assume responsibility for that care who is not properly prepared by such training. It is true that sometimes first aid may seem to be all that is necessary, but if the accident is more than slight, it should be carefully checked by a competent medical man.

An Example

As an example, an elderly lady was resting on a couch with a light blanket thrown over her. The door bell rang and she moved quickly to go to the door. Her feet became tangled in the blanket, and she rolled to the floor, not much over a foot below. At first there seemed to be little wrong, but she complained of pain in her hip, and the doctor was called. He found a fracture of the hip joint, from which she died a few days later.

In addition to the ordinary pain and inconvenience caused by household accidents, there is always danger from our universal enemies, the germs that cause infections. While usually we are able to resist easily most of those introduced into small wounds, burns, scratches, pin and needle pricks, and the like, yet there is always danger that our marvelous natural defenses may be weakened through some unexplained condition, or that a particular kind of germ may be there with unusual activity and strength. Therefore it is safest always to assume that all wounds, where blood appears, have penetrated our outer defenses—the armor-like, outer layer of the skin—and bacteria may have gained entrance to the body. Only a few germs can penetrate unless it is broken.

Now at all times there are millions of little plants or germs on the body's skin, even after we have washed it very clean. If we have just used soap and water vigorously, a great many are removed, but even then millions of microbes still remain. It is difficult for us to realize how small these germs are, but when we look at the

foot of an ordinary house fly, and remember that it can carry literally thousands of germs, we realize that they are very small. But this does not indicate that they are not powerful, for scientists have measured the time it takes for a generation to grow, and in many cases 20 to 30 minutes is enough time for a complete new generation to mature. Most germs increase by simply dividing into two. When we start with one germ, and in an hour there are eight, in two hours 64, while in seven hours there are over 3,000,000, we can see what a power there is in such numbers. Remember that not one germ, but thousands start such a process of increase whenever our defenses are weakened, as is likely to occur as a result of an injury.

All this bears directly on first aid. It is extremely important not to add any germs to those that are already certain to be in any wound, no matter how small the injury. We must remember that our hands always carry millions of germs, especially under and around the finger nails. For this reason it is extremely important that the hands do not touch the wound or the dressings that are placed next to it.

First aid supplies should be available in every home. These need not be many or elaborate, but something "handy" that can be used at once. A small package of sterilized (free from germs) dressings, a few bandages, some tincture of iodine in a little bottle with a glass rod in the cork,

(Continued on page 19)



Replies to Health Queries

This information for the readers of OUR TIMES is supplied by Owen S. Parrett, M. D., a physician and writer of wide experience. Address questions to the doctor in care of this magazine.

If a vaccination for smallpox has taken well, how long can a person go without needing another inoculation?—O.W.A.

A vaccination is expected to afford adequate protection for at least seven years. Relative protection may be afforded for a much longer time. Indeed, it is doubtful if a person who has been successfully vaccinated would ever take the disease as severely as if he had not been vaccinated. I have many times observed that in homes where persons not vaccinated had contracted smallpox, members vaccinated as long as forty years previously seemed to be relatively immune. Vaccination, especially when repeated, is generally a harmless procedure and accompanied with few if any symptoms. Hence it is best, particularly in such times as these, when our soldier boys are returning and possibly bringing the disease home in a most virulent form, for everyone to bring his immunity up to date if the interval since vaccination has been over seven years. Failure of the inoculation to take may be due to the use of old vaccine rather than to any natural immunity. Vaccine, to be potent, must be fresh or kept in the freezing compartment of an ice box and not in just any part of the box.

I have been told that vinegar is not a wholesome food element. Yet I understand that the citric acid content of vinegar is the same as that found in lemons and other tart fruits. What is the objection, if any, to the use of vinegar such as is sold commercially today?

While there may be traces of citric acid in vinegar, the main sourness is due not to citric but to acetic acid. This acid is about the most useless and the most toxic of all common acids. For example, while many acids commonly used in commerce (even such as sulphuric), when diluted sufficiently, may be substituted for the natural hydrochloric acid of the stomach, yet the acetic acid of vinegar is altogether unable to play this useful role. It has no use at all inside the body. But whereas the citric acid of

fruits is highly alkalinizing, the acetic acid of vinegar is acidifying to the body. Vinegar, if used in anything but very small quantities, will hob-nail a liver more quickly than the alcohol of whiskey. Its best use is found in the concentrated form commonly known as glacial acetic, which is an excellent caustic for the removal of warts or corns. In vinegar it is more dilute, averaging from three to six per cent in so-called proof vinegar. Lemon juice, instead of vinegar, ought always to be used in salad dressings, mayonnaise, etc. It adds to the nutritional value of such foods. Lemons were issued to the Italian army in its Ethiopian campaign as a regular daily ration, and to this was attributed the fact that only a few hundred died of tropical fevers and dysentery, whereas thousands were expected to succumb to these diseases in that very trying climate.

What treatment would you advise for trench mouth infection?—L.A.

Trench mouth infection, or Vincent's angina, is caused by a special germ quite frequently found in mouths along the teeth and gum margins, often as a mixed infection with pyorrhea germs. Since Vitamin C is a big factor in the maintaining of healthy gums, two or three glasses of citrus fruit juice or apple or tomato juice should be taken daily. It is better still if the fruit can be sliced radially and the juice extracted by sinking the teeth into the slices while sucking the juice of the citrus fruits or chewing the raw apples, or pineapples. This mechanically cleans the teeth while the acid at the same time acts as a disinfectant. In addition the teeth may be brushed toward the points with a moderately soft brush, using a five per cent solution of sodium citrate, or sodium perborate powder. In stubborn cases the infection may require the injection of a spirocheticide in the vein by a physician. Improvement of the general health increases the resistance of the body to all infections, thus helping to bring about a cure.

THE CHRISTIAN ought not to permit his sense of duty to be influenced by circumstances. Ethics, morals, and character belong to the realm of the absolute. The Christian life has a much broader meaning than it is generally understood to have. It is not merely a system of belief; it is not simply the identifying of oneself with a creed, or the accepting of the doctrinal teachings of some church. It is a living force, a dynamic power, a holy influence coming from above that takes possession of the heart and life, and man is made a "new creature" in Christ.

The Saviour came to this earth to open the prison "to them that are bound" and "to proclaim liberty to the captives" of sin. (Isaiah 61: 1.) When man consents, God by His Spirit energizes the soul, directs the thoughts, regulates the desires, controls the conduct, sweetens the disposition, enriches the faith, and perfects the character. In Bible terms, Christianity is "Christ in you, the hope of glory." Colossians 1: 27.

The Badge

The badge of Christian living is not the wearing of a garb, a cross, or a crown. The daily life reveals whether or not contact has been made with God and with His Son, who is the living exemplification and very essence of Christianity.

The Christian life is a victorious life—a life set free from the bondage of disobedience and sin. If Christ "shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed." John 8: 36. Obedience by faith to God's law, springing from a heart of love, is liberty from the thralldom of sin. Advancement in our Christian experience is characterized by an increased manifestation of Christ's likeness in our life and in our conversation. Where He is cherished in the heart, humility reigns. Where pride was once predominant, now submission, meekness, and patience soften the rugged features and change the perverse, impetuous disposition. Every favorite indulgence that hinders progress in Christian growth is cut off.

When we see men firm in principle, fearless in duty, obedient to God's law; humble, gentle, tender, patient toward all; ready to forgive, and manifesting love and compassion for souls for whom Christ died, we need not inquire if they are Christians. They give unmistakable evidence that they have appropriated that divine power which supplies all things that "pertain unto life and godliness." 2 Peter 1: 3. On the contrary, if men reveal the opposite traits, being proud, vain, frivolous, worldly-minded, avaricious, unkind, critical, prayerless, irreligious, indo-



H. M. Lambert photo.

Heaven Loves You

**Great Privileges and Joys
Are Yours for the Taking**

By GEORGE W. WELLS

lent, and make no effort to meet their honest obligations to God or man, we need not be told that such persons do not have a living contact with the blessed Redeemer.

To set a soul free from the bondage and shackles of evil is a divine act. It is never the outcome of man's exercise of physical energy, mental power, personal attractiveness, education, or culture. Neither silver nor gold, neither education nor fame, can ever purchase such an experience. Nothing man can do will ever merit it. No activity, resolution, penance, or creed of men can produce it. God alone, through our faith in the death, life, and righteousness of His Son, can make it possible and a living reality.

Christ alone can take away sin and

change the sinful heart. Only He can bring "deliverance to the captives" and break the fetters of enslaving habits. No man can explain, neither can any fully comprehend, the miracle of God's grace and power in his own life; but when he accepts God's word of promise, and commands of love, he finds to his great joy and satisfaction a divine power working in his heart to mold him in the image of Jesus.

In the great commission the Master said, "Go ye therefore, and teach"—make Christians of—"all nations, . . . teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always." Matthew 28: 19, 20.

To be a Christian is to love and keep God's law. You are to love Him "with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with

all thy mind." Matthew 22:37. "For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments: and His commandments are not grievous." 1 John 5:3. To do the will of God is the joyful privilege of the angelic hosts, they "do His commandments, hearkening unto the voice of His word." Psalm 103:20. Obedience to God is the highest type of service and holy worship, the clearest evidence of Christian living.

Some claim the law of God is only a legal document and without love or mercy. To know that this teaching is not true, we have but to read Exodus 20:2, 6, where God speaks of Himself thus: "I am the Lord . . . showing mercy unto thousands of them that love Me, and keep My commandments." "Love" and "keep"—these two words go together in the Christian religion. One can claim to love God, but refuse to keep His commandments; while another claims to keep the law of God, but in his heart there is little or no love. The promises of God are to those only who "love" and "keep." Love comes first. Christ says, "If a man love Me, he will keep My words." John 14:23. Will not one who is preparing for eternal citizenship willingly love and keep all of God's commandments? Yes, with a fixed purpose and a single eye, he will follow on in joyful obedience to the high and holy commands of our great Leader.

"Launch the Boat"

A mighty storm was raging on the sea. A great ocean liner came too near the coast, and the gale drove her on the rocks and pounded her unmercifully. The Coast Guard appeared, directed by a veteran captain. The command was given to go to the rescue of the helpless on board the wrecked ship. One man said, "Sir, the wind is offshore, and the tide is running out. Of course, we can go out, but what good will it do against the wind and tide? Moreover, we can't come back."

But the captain replied, "Launch the boat. We have to go out, but we don't have to come back."

Millions today are using present world conditions as an excuse for not obeying God, and thus fail to gain a personal experience in following Christ. An important lesson is given by Him, recorded in John 21:15-22; it teaches us that individual obedience is the duty required of all. Peter was concerned about what another would do, and asked the Lord, "And what shall this man do?" Verse 21. The reply given was full of meaning. Jesus said, "What is that to thee? Follow thou Me." Verse 22. It is clear that the duty of each one of us is to follow Christ without undue anxiety as to the work as-

signed to another. It is important that each find God's way for himself, and exercise a faith that will endure regardless of personal hardship, danger, and pain involved. "To obey is better than sacrifice." 1 Samuel 15:22.

Obedience to God is the result of the miraculous working of the Spirit and power of God in the hearts of men. It is divine power that creates men anew in Christ and leads them in joyful obedience. God's promise is: "A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you: and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you an heart of flesh. And I will . . . cause you to walk in My statutes, and ye shall keep My judgments." Ezekiel 36:26, 27. The man with a new heart, and filled with God's Spirit, walks in harmony with His law. Infinite love has paid the price of our redemption. The gracious Redeemer invites us to open our hearts and accept of His mercy, to be guided by His Spirit, and to live and walk in His way. Notwithstanding our sinful and hopeless condition, God through Christ has opened the way—a sure way; has given light—a clear light; and has provided a hope—a blessed hope, for all who come to Him.

The conditions for obtaining mercy, forgiveness, and power from the Divine One, to develop an obedient, joyous, triumphant, Christian character, are simple, direct, just, reasonable, and right. When one obtains a clear view of Calvary's terrific tragedy, he begins to realize the exceeding sinfulness of sin and the great cost of his redemption. He now sees with new beauty that the great sacrifice and victory of Christ Jesus was wrought out for man's deliverance and salvation.

He who has a clear view of the riches of love in Christ, and freely accepts by faith the virtues and righteousness of the Son of God, appropriating the merits of His life, is not only precious in the sight of Heaven now, but the joy and pleasure found in walking with God in obedience to His law are but a foretaste of the eternal joys and unutterable delight that will thrill throughout eternity the hearts of all whom Christ by His love and divine power sets free from the bondage and shackles of sin.

IN THE SEA—The American merchant marine during World War II "lost 743 ships, totaling 9,000,000 tons sunk, and 5,638 men dead or missing."—*Newsweek*, June 3, 1946, p. 23.

WHAT WE READ—"Only eight per cent of books read by the people of this country [the United States] are humor books and a mere two per cent are poetry."—*The New York Times Magazine*, May 19, 1946, p. 4.

The Miracle of the Seasons

(Continued from page 3)

"winter" on Mars brings a white expanse resembling snow, at the poles, while spring is said to bring dark lines like canals.

Jupiter's seasons vary but little, as the axis is only tilted three degrees.

Saturn, the lovely, ringed planet, apparently has seasons in many respects like those of the earth. Its axis is tilted just a little more than ours—28 degrees. It is easy to see the tilt of Saturn's giant disc even in a small telescope. What exciting variations must take place throughout the year on that far distant world!

Neptune's axis is tilted more than ours, but the planet Uranus has some very strange seasons, for its axis seems to have a slant of over 98 degrees.

Earth has had seasons ever since its creation. "God said, Let there be lights in the firmament of the heaven . . . and let them be for signs, and for seasons, and for days, and years." Genesis 1:14.

We can rest assured that the seasons will continue. Just after the Flood the Lord declared that they would go on with regularity. "While the earth remaineth, seedtime and harvest, and cold and heat, and summer and winter, and day and night shall not cease," He said. Genesis 8:22.

Yes, the farmer can confidently prepare his soil and his seed. However dull the autumn, however fierce the winter, spring will come, and will come at the time appointed.

Many of us have had the impression that the sun is always overhead at the equator, but this is not so. The tilting of the earth's axis causes the sun to appear overhead far south or north of the equator, according to the seasons. Thus many lands are able to grow equatorial fruits and other valuable products.

I am reminded of this common error when I think of the two stout Portuguese who sat on the deck of our good ship *Aragon* when we crossed the equator near Christmas in 1908. They were watching intently the shadow of a pencil they had stood on its end. And I watched too.

They discussed this shadow with animation. They were evidently puzzled. So was I.

"It's nearly noon now. The pencil should have no shadow," I said to myself.

But the shadow was there, and although midday passed, the expected result did not appear. Nor was it particularly hot, although I supposed it would be. "Very odd," I thought.

But when we had steamed south another 1,500 miles and plowed into the

beautiful Brazilian harbor of Rio de Janeiro, it was certainly hot enough there. And, behold, the sun was right overhead! Tropical fruits, bananas, and pineapples grew in abundance in the country.

Of course, the explanation was simple enough. That same slant of the axis of the earth, which brings the United States into winter, also brings Rio de Janeiro almost under the sun, together with all other places of that same latitude.

Six months later, in the northern summer, the sun is overhead just south of Key West, Florida. Twice a year, in March and in September, the equator is directly under the sun. But only then.

This tilt of the earth's axis does not produce a uniform band of warmer climate all around our northern hemisphere. The heat may be greatly modified by the oceans and their currents, or by prevailing winds. Great land masses may be hotter in summer and colder in winter. A high mountainous country, like Tibet, may have a climate very different from that of the Siberian plains. But all these lands enjoy a greater degree of fruitfulness through God's great gift of the seasons.

Here is the voice of witnesses clothed in golden light, ordained by God to testify of His wisdom and His love for the children of men! Here they are in the fruitful seasons!

Yes, God has not left Himself without witness, "in that He did good, and gave us . . . fruitful seasons, filling our hearts with food and gladness." Acts 14: 17.

Creaking hay wagons, waving cornfields, loaded fruit trees, yellow pumpkins, songs of harvesters, laughing children playing in the hay—all these voices of the autumn season proclaim this message of the love of God for us and our families. Let us listen and join in their song.

America's Historic Blackout

(Continued from page 5)

The photostatic reproduction of *The Independent Chronicle* of Boston, June 22, 1780, concludes that God only knows how He brought the Dark Day about. That is right. It was God's second sign to that generation telling them that Christ is coming soon.

Our next article will take up the dark night of May 19, 1780.

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Scripture Problems Solved

This department of OUR TIMES is a service for answering questions concerning the Holy Scriptures and the Christian religion. Send your queries, accompanied by your full name and address, to the editor. Only the initials will be used in publication.



Please explain Isaiah 66: 24.—W.K.

Isaiah 66: 22, 23 speaks of the establishment of the redeemed in the new earth, which shall succeed this present world. (2 Peter 3: 10, 13; Revelation 21: 1.) That new earth will be ushered in immediately after fire falling from heaven shall have devoured the wicked in the final judgment. (Revelation 20: 9-15.) The righteous then shall see the reward of the wicked. God says: "And they shall go forth, and look upon the carcasses of the men that have transgressed against Me: for their worm shall not die, neither shall their fire be quenched; and they shall be an abhorring unto all flesh." Isaiah 66: 24.

Note that the prophecy refers to "the carcasses" of the wicked. The American Standard Version uses the expression, "the dead bodies." This plainly shows that the lost will not then be living in a perpetual state of suffering in torment, but will be punished and put to death. This for them will be the second death, which will take place in the lake of fire. (Revelation 21: 8.) Those dead bodies will be consumed by worms and fire. None will be able to put out the fire nor hinder the maggots in their work of destruction. They will make a complete

riddance of sinners. When this shall have been accomplished, the elements of destruction will cease their work. God will not perpetuate sin and misery by establishing an eternally burning hell wherein human beings, cursing and screaming in ceaseless agony, would be tormented age without end. Those who reject Christ and eternal life will perish. (John 3: 16.)

"The wages of sin is death." Romans 6: 23. "The soul that sinneth, it shall die." Ezekiel 18: 4, 20. "For, behold, the day cometh, that shall burn as an oven; and all the proud, yea, and all that do wickedly, shall be stubble: and the day that cometh shall burn them up, saith the Lord of hosts, that it shall leave them neither root nor branch. . . . And ye [saints of God] shall tread down the wicked; for they shall be ashes under the soles of your feet in the day that I shall do this, saith the Lord of hosts." Malachi 4: 1, 3. "For yet a little while, and the wicked shall not be: yea, thou shalt diligently consider his place, and it shall not be. . . . The wicked shall perish, and the enemies of the Lord shall be as the fat of lambs: they shall consume; into smoke shall they consume away." Psalm 37: 10, 20.

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Who Wrote the Bible?

(Continued from page 9)

is it. If there are words that will endure forever, they are found in it. If there is one volume that above all others is pure and precious, sweet and wholesome, invigorating and refreshing, authoritative and convincing, timely and vital, it is the Bible. As we have this Book of books, may God help us to read it and believe it,

to love it and live it, to heed its warnings, to listen to its admonitions, to be guided by its counsels and reproofs. May we accept it for what it actually is—a divinely inspired message from the God of heaven and earth.

India's Call and Challenge

(Continued from page 11)

heart, and he asked his wife to forgive him for his cruel treatment to her. He was thoroughly convicted of his sin and his need of the Saviour. At once he began to attend meetings, and commenced also the paying of his tithes. He had a struggle to give up smoking and drinking, which had enslaved him for over 40 years. He attended a campmeeting and there received spiritual help and strength to overcome. Recently he was buried with his Lord in baptism, and is today a faithful member of the church. His wife is happy, and they rejoice together in the blessed hope."

Even in the back reaches of the country, in the hills and the valleys, the gospel message is searching out the lost ones, and they are responding to the call of the Hunter of souls. They, too, have learned the power of prayer.

A few months ago it was my privilege to be in the state of Travancore, where is to be found some of the most beautiful scenery in India. We went back into the mountains to visit some of our church members. They had a little building erected on a piece of land that they had recently purchased on the hillside, and the people of the villages had been told to come there at a certain time for a meeting. Brother Theophilus, a graduate of Spicer Missionary College, labors in that section,

and it was a pleasure to meet him and to see the people coming at the appointed hour from the hills and the valleys.

"We spoke to them from the word of God, and at the close of the service I saw a poor woman come to the front, carrying a little child in her arms. She said a few words in her language, which I could not understand, and placed a silver coin on the table. No call had been made for offerings.

"I asked my interpreter what this woman was giving that money for, and he interpreted to me the words of this native of a mountain tribe. She belonged to a tribe of aboriginal people for whom gospel work is now being done. Her little child had been seriously ill, and she had asked our young worker, Brother Theophilus, to come and pray for its recovery. The little one was restored to health, and the mother now brought her thank offering. When I learned of the home from which she had come, my mind immediately went to that passage in Jeremiah 16: 16, which reads: "Behold, I will send for many fishers, saith the Lord, and they shall fish them; and after will I send for many hunters, and they shall hunt them from every mountain, and from every hill, and out of the holes of the rocks."

Brother Theophilus told me that those tribes people actually live in the caves along the mountain side. They rejoice in a knowledge of the saving love of God, and express in a very tangible way their gratitude for what He does for them in answer to prayer.

So it is, as our workers throughout this whole Southern Asia field go about their work of preaching the gospel, the hearts of men and women and children are being

touched, their lives are being changed, and they are being helped in their daily problems. We believe that many are being prepared for places in God's eternal kingdom.

Let's Mobilize against Accidents in the Home

(Continued from page 15)

and some adhesive tape will do wonders in case of need. Such emergency kits are readily available at most drug stores.

When a wound is to be dressed, unless proper means are at hand and you know how, it is better to place a sterile dressing in contact with the wound at once and not try to clean it, for the chances are that you will put more germs into it than you will take out. Do not touch the side of the dressing that goes next to the wound, but hold it carefully by the back and at one corner. After the wound is covered, if the surroundings are very dirty, a careful washing of the skin, away from the wound, with soap and water, patting it dry and painting with iodine, will help keep it clean until the surgeon can attend to it properly.

We will consider many of the emergencies that are most common. It is fortunate that certain principles hold good for practically all of them, and if we know the general rules and keep from getting excited, we can render many useful services not only in the household, but on the highway or wherever we happen to be when an emergency occurs, for in the rush and hurry of our times accidents seem always to be taking place.



Mighty Rome, proud of its justice and its jurisprudence, condemned to death One of whom Pilate himself said, "I find no fault in Him." What a travesty on justice!

"Behold the Man!"

By TAYLOR G. BUNCH

The author of this book exalts the Christ by presenting very clearly the closing scenes of His life. The conclusions are drawn after a 15-year study of Hebrew and Roman jurisprudence that obtained in the tribunals that tried and condemned Jesus of Nazareth. The result is a thrilling, heart-touching account, throwing a flood of light on both Old and New Testament prophecies which were then fulfilled. 192 inspiring, informative pages.

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He Heals before He Wounds

By MAY COLE KUHN

the heart of the one who has suffered. He may enjoy more fully the precious companionship with his Saviour, who knew pain with no sedative or emollient.

Not all trees have this protective scar arrangement. Not all trees need it, because in themselves, by reason of their structure and their density, they have another kind of reserve which enables them to lose a member and "to think nothing of it." Perhaps that is the way such a tree would express itself if it could think and talk, which, of course, it cannot.

In fact, benefits accrue from lopping off a limb or two. Every year the English walnut trees are pruned heavily, as are also grapes and other fruit-bearing plants. On the other hand, the camellia suffers and even dies if it is cut too largely. God has provided special ways to care for all these different varieties of natural life.

What the Creator does for nature He does more effectively for men and women. Earth has no trouble nor hurt that Heaven cannot heal. There are compassion and cure in the Redeemer of mankind. Moreover, God is not sporadic in His mercies and in His willingness to heal the soul and body. His power is a constant factor in life.

"Trust ye in the Lord forever: for in the Lord Jehovah is everlasting strength." Isaiah 26: 4. He imparts this strength to those who trust Him. "They that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint," says the prophet. Isaiah 40: 31.

It is often the tendency of human beings to conjecture that these promises apply to some far distant time when the earth will be made new and when Christ shall reign on this planet. But God makes His promises apply when His creatures need them most.

Is there a hurt in your heart? Ask the loving Father in heaven to help you to bear it, or to remove it. Are you in perplexity or distress? Pray that God will make your pathway clear. Plead with Him to sustain you, and you will find Him to be a present help in trouble, a wise counselor, and a constant friend. He has

(Continued on page 13)

"BEFORE the wound is made the scar is healed." That is what the botany professor said as she placed on her desk a rich-looking branch from the horse-chestnut tree, after the class had examined it carefully. When a leaf falls from a horse-chestnut tree, a well healed scar is left where the stem has been attached to the branch. Beautifully heart-shaped in design, clean and shining, the scar remains, a gem of artistry—a 'scutcheon with no blot. It is decorated with a few varnished dots which mark the places where the stem fibers joined the leaf to the twig. The gentle surgery involved in the loss of a leaf has been precluded by the drawing of a protective film over the wound. So, the instructor averred, "The scar is healed before the wound is made."

At another time the class had been examining the structure of a sycamore maple bough. A few small branches, scarcely frosted by the crisp, fall rime, had been put into the hands of the students, and they were eagerly scanning the bark, leaves, stems, and general anatomy of the interesting shade tree.

"Carefully pull the leaf, stem, and all from the branch," the teacher suggested. The leaf-stem was hollow, and on the place where it had been fastened to the parent bough grew a tiny bud. Within each stem was an incipient next-year's branch, a promise of new life, new beauty. A leaf was lost, but a branch was gained. A leaf had died, but it had protected and nurtured what would be a greater and larger growth than itself.

So it is in human life experiences. Some grief, some trouble, and some disappointment comes. We are amazed, hurt, and discouraged by the plight in which we find ourselves. Then, of a sudden, we find that God has given some blessing to compensate for the sting and the pain. Perhaps a new experience awakens in