

Our TIMES

SINCE 1891

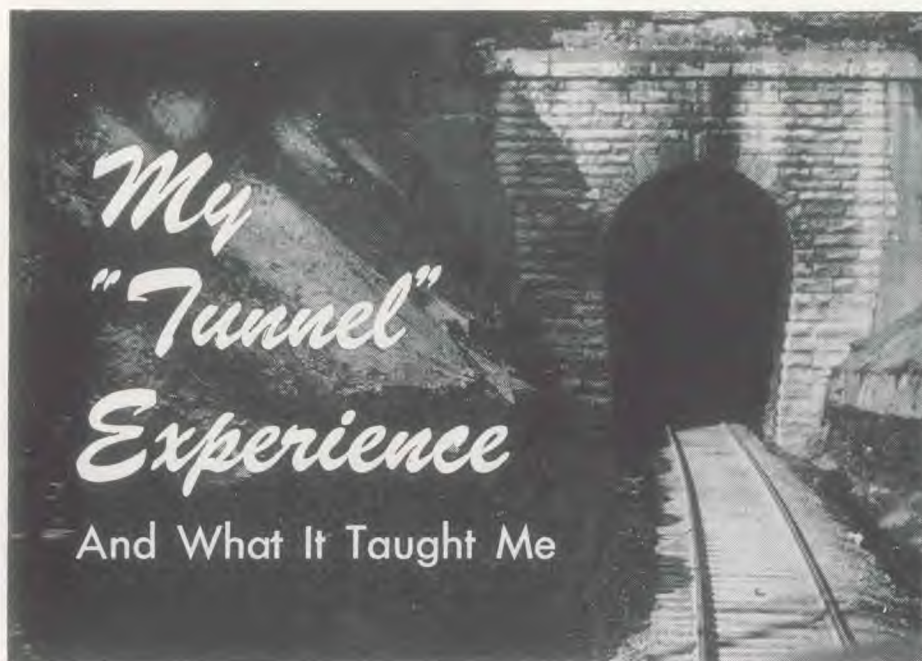
A BIBLICAL INTERPRETER OF THE NEWS



MARCH
TEN CENTS

APPREHENSION

permeates the Atmosphere
of the World! (SEE PAGE 6)



My "Tunnel" Experience And What It Taught Me

By EDNA F. PATTERSON, M. D.

IT WAS on the Overland Limited, on the roof of the world in the Rockies of Colorado. The long train of coaches was winding its way in and out among God's skyscrapers. For hours we had watched the kaleidoscopic shift of the ever-changing panorama before our eyes. Above us we could see the gigantic, rugged peaks, pinnacling their majestic forms to dizzy heights of thousands of feet—now catching slender shafts of a golden sunlight, now crowned with white billowy clouds which only added to their enchanting beauty. To the right of us was the canyon, on its deepening sides growing sturdy evergreen trees, whose twisted, gnarled shapes spoke of the ravages of wind and storm. Spreading out in the distance was the peaceful valley with its patchwork of fertile fields. Winding in and out like a shimmering silver thread was the river. On its banks might be seen the cattle, grazing quietly and unafraid.

Our eyes were drinking in the marvelous beauty of the scene when suddenly, without a moment's warning, our train was whisked into dungeon darkness! Instead of the restful vista was seen only two dark walls which our blurred vision could scarcely detect—a tunnel! For 15 long minutes, which seemed almost like hours, we rumbled through this cavern, some six miles in length and at an elevation of 9,000 feet, with boulders and rocks piled over our heads for still another 4,000 feet. What had we done to merit this dreadful darkness? Why should the beautiful scene be taken from us and in its place we be given only cold, stuffy darkness?

After traveling for a few minutes in this

strange darkness, our eyes became adjusted, and we were able to detect the obscure faces around us. Suddenly our train emerged from its dark tunnel, and before our eyes again was seen the glorious view of the mountains and the peaceful valley with its gleaming sunlight, more beautiful than ever because of the extreme contrast.

Only a tunnel? Yes, but it was the Moffat tunnel which pierces the great divide—where this drop of falling rain will find its way into the Atlantic Ocean, and that one into the Pacific. It is a tunnel which means a shortening of the road over difficult mountain peaks by some 270 miles, a lessening of the time of travel from East to West of more than eight hours, a tunnel that brings closer together the fertile valleys of the West and the great industries of the East.

And so ever is life. Sometime and somewhere before we have traveled very far upon life's highway, each one of us will pass through some "tunnel experience." Without invitation or warning, dark experiences come to us; with almost crushing gloom they surround us, obscuring the faces of our dearest loved ones and momentarily seeming to shut out the presence of our Heavenly Father. It may be the snuffing out of a precious life by accident. It may be the loss by fire of our most treasured earthly possessions. It may be disappointment in our closest earthly friend. Whatever it be, sooner or later each of us must pass through this tunnel darkness. But blessed is he who can realize that this is only a tunnel, and that

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"PEOPLE are always blaming their circumstances for what they are. I don't believe in circumstances. The people who get on in this world are the people who get up and look for the circumstances they want, and, if they can't find them, make them."—George Bernard Shaw.

AS ONE READS the Flood record in Genesis, he is faced with a choice of interpretations. Either he must believe that it was a universal catastrophe that covered all the surface of the earth, as the simple record seems to indicate, or else he must accept the popular belief that it was a local flood affecting only a portion of the Mesopotamian valley. Which is the correct viewpoint?

Since the middle of the past century the uniformitarian theory has been generally accepted, which teaches that there has been no world-wide catastrophe. However, in 1902, this position was challenged by George McCready Price. Since that time he has devoted a lifetime to gathering evidence for the catastrophic viewpoint in geology, and since the present writer's contact with him in 1920, we have co-operated in bringing together a wealth of evidence that today seems overwhelmingly opposed to the uniformitarian viewpoint.

"Modern scientific evidence from all over the globe . . . compels us to believe in a world-catastrophe of some sort and of quite indefinable dimensions," wrote Professor Price. The facts, he argued, "prove beyond a possible doubt that our once magnificently stocked and climated world met with a tremendous catastrophe some thousands of years ago, before the dawn of history; and they confirm in a marvelous way the biblical record of a universal Deluge."—George McCready Price, *Fundamentals of Geology*, p. 14; *The Modern Flood Theory of Geology*, p. 22.

One of the outstanding facts that confronts the student of geology wherever he goes is the vast amount of sedimentary material in the rocks. On all continents are

thousands of feet of sandstones, shales, and limestones, varying in thickness from a few feet to strata two or three miles deep, as in the case of the California and Texas oil fields. How did they get into place? Were they washed there by normal action, or by some action different from that now going on?

This question was first answered by the results of the Challenger expedition, sent

different lands. In India, for one, we find that rapid alterations of coarse and fine sandstones occur, indicating fluctuations in current. There are false-bedding, local unconformities, erosion, and a mixture of fine clays with the sand. There are hundreds and thousands of trees in a state of disorder, as if dropped by rivers during a flood.

In South Africa, at The Rand, are

Was Noah's FLOOD UNIVERSAL?

The Scope and Effect of the Deluge

By HAROLD W. CLARK

out by the British government from 1872 to 1876. Covering the Atlantic, Pacific, and Antarctic oceans, this expedition found proof that the floor of the ocean is not covered with sedimentary rocks such as are found on the land. Sandstone, shale, and limestone are not being formed at the bottom of the ocean on any large scale. We must look to something entirely different from present-day action to account for the sedimentary rocks of the earth.

As an example of what has taken place in the past, let us note a few facts from

conglomerate "reefs" torn from crystalline rocks and spread over a wide area. Of these an observer says:

"Such a persistent conglomerate . . . could well have been the product of a series of discharges of exceptional volume that worked over masses of varied materials, sorting them and spreading out the pebbles in a continuous sheet."—A. L. du Toit, *The Geology of South Africa*, p. 78.

In Texas there is evidence of a "continuous and relentless struggle between the encroaching waters of the Gulf and heavily loaded, large streams. . . . Abundant river water heavily laden with sand and silt meandered across the flat coastal plain and spread far and wide its deposits. The rivers built up natural levees of cross-bedded sand, overflowed their levees into the lower lands between the river courses and produced lakes and land-locked lagoons, and laid down fine silts and sandy clays of the deltaic and lake-bed type. Later shifting currents of these rivers undercut clay banks, and spread the sand over the lake beds. Trunks of trees, logs, and large branches were carried downward by the currents and buried in the sand."—E. H. Sellards, *Geology of Texas*, pp. 525-529.

Speaking of the same region, Sellards says further:

"Floods of water were poured down the drainage lines, filled the valley, and spread out over the flat coastal plain. Cobbles up to six or eight inches in diameter were transported a hundred miles or more, were rounded, and left as evidence of the force and size of the . . . floods. . . . A wide-

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There are many evidences in nature that confirm the Bible story of a world-wide catastrophic Flood.





MEN LOVE WAR!

Fear of Consequences Only Deterrent

By ARTHUR W. SPALDING

HISTORY, at least superficial history, is made up of wars and the settlement of wars. "The whining schoolboy, creeping like a snail unwillingly to school," carries in his pack a book that tells him how, in the year 1, his fathers waded ashore and fought off the savage denizens of the land, finally making peace by extermination; how in the year 10 they defied a tyrant, his taxes, his minions, his arms, and bought the liberty of their land with their blood; how in the year 100, after several gay little fisticuffs, they quarreled among themselves over another phase of the liberty issue, and achieved peace by destroying a fair third of their country in internecine strife; and how, if history multiplies itself, the year 1000 will see the whole human race stage a Pool of Gibeon act: "They caught every one his fellow by the head, and thrust his sword in his fellow's side; so they fell down together."

There is, it is true, a history of culture, of moral movements, of friendships and mutual aid, of uplifts. But it is so obscured by the riots, rivalries, and revolutions of mankind that the proverb has been made, "Happy is that land that has no history!" Tubal-cain in old Antediluvia forged a plow; but the giants that were in those days came around and made him beat it into a sword. Nimrod drew his bow against the wild beasts of the jungle; but finding this too tame or too unprofitable, he turned his weapons against the patriarchs, and on the heaps of their ruins built his empire of Babel and Erech and Accad and Calneh in the land of Shinar.

Every succeeding age has seen its bloody conquerors, tyrants, and human butchers; and they are better known today than the apostles of peace. Save for the heroes of peace that divide the palm with the warriors in the unique Hebrew Scriptures, the knowledge of whom we have inherited with our Christian faith, who compares with Thothmes, Nebuchadnezzar, Alexander, Caesar, Charlemagne, Tamerlane, Bonaparte? They led their armed hosts to slay their millions, and history has named its eras for them. Beside them how shines the fame of farmers, physicians, engineers, astronomers, philanthropists? How despised and vilified is the name of Jesus, even in lands where He is worshiped?

Do men love war? Some appeasers today would have us believe that it is only ambitious tyrants who love war, that "the people," if given a fair chance to express themselves, would forever banish the thought of war. Great faith is professed in democracy as a preventive of war, if only it might be suffered to operate. Thus, a great general declares that he knows of no nation that wants war, and that if only the fear of war could be eliminated, our eyes would behold the angel of peace. A successful if not too popular journalist tells us that if the issue of war or peace were submitted to the suffrage of the common people in every land under the sun, the vote would be for peace. The voice of a pre-eminent statesman reverberates among the Alps, calling for a United States of Europe, to abolish the barriers of nationalism, that the lion may lie down with the lamb and the sucking child play on the hole of the asp!

How true are these statements, how reliable this confidence in the amiability of the common people? Is democracy, American brand, all that is needed to assure peace? If we could turn all the scoundrels out who now sit in the seats of the mighty and rule the nations with a rod of iron, if we could truly express the will of the people through their governments, would we have peace? How is it that 2,000,000,000 peace-loving people over the whole earth must suffer the caprice of perhaps a million of a ruling class who love war? There is some mystery here which a congress of the people ought to resolve before they go down into the maw of total destruction. Let us lift the curtain and investigate.

Have not the prophets mistaken a fear of consequences for a principle of policy? It is not difficult to discover among men, rulers no less than common people, a dread of the results of war and a willingness to abolish the penalties of war, if only they may attain their ends without it. That is a common trait in the individual as well as in the mass. The thief would like to escape the penitentiary if still he might steal. The drunkard is opposed to delirium tremens if he may drink as much as he pleases. The libertine would vote against venereal disease if he might still indulge his sensuality. But has the common man yet demonstrated that he is against sin, the wages of which is death?

Of course no one wants to have an atom bomb dropped on his city. No one wants to be driven from home, starved, buffeted, tortured by the agents of war. No soldier who saw the horrors of battle or prison

wants to face them again. No mother, no wife, no sweetheart wants to bid another agonizing farewell to those whom she may never see again. No one wants the disruption of trade, the piling up of huge debts and crushing taxation, the dislocation of the normal course of life forever and ever. Everyone knows that war is hell, and we do not like hell. If you should put forth a universal questionnaire, "Do you want war?" you would get an overwhelming answer, "No!"

But is that answer going to stop war? Is it going to keep out of war any people who take the attitudes and make the claims and seek the benefits that arouse the opposition of another people? Two peoples thus opposed may for a time dance around the ring, shadow-boxing and calling for decisions from the referee; but at some fateful moment one or the other is going to think that he sees an opening for a blow, and the war is on. Fear is a mighty deterrent, but in all history it has never yet proved the master of cupidity allied to courage. War is the certain fruit of rivalry and greed; and the common people as well as governors and kings share in the possession of rivalry and greed.

Where do men get it? Whence comes this breeder of wars? Who plants it, who cultivates it, who nourishes it until it brings forth its fearful fruit? The people, not the rulers only. No man but the man who has been transformed by divine grace misses the character-blighting influence of competition, rivalry, strife. It is inborn in human nature—depraved human nature. And it is taught and practiced in home, in community, in school, in all the classes of society—workingman, employer, teacher, merchant, writer, farmer, criminal, and police. "Look out for Number One!" "There's room at the top!" "Prove yourself the greatest!" "Fight for lebensraum!" "Kill the scabs!"

Mars does not spring full-armed from the head of Jove. You start with the baby, giving him what he cries for; you go on with little Gimme, hogging more than his share; you pile up the load on Junior, with contests, and prizes, and rah-rah's of victory; you crown with laurel the heroes of sports and the kings of commerce and the queens of society. And when at last you face the horde of greedy barbarians across the seas, you face them with a mob of equally acquisitive savages spoiling for a fight. Truly, as Wellington observed, though with no tincture of his meaning, Waterloo is won on the playing-fields of Eton.

"Ye shall know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes of thorns, or figs of thistles?" Matthew 7: 17. Thus did the great Teacher pose the question of cause

and effect. Will you gather co-operation from competition, or international peace from class strife? Will friendly emulation, with the common good in mind, come from fierce rivalries in school, in sports, in business, in society? When the fruit is war, what was the tree?

He who posed the question presented the remedy. He offered the seed that produces peace. What is that seed? Do men want it? Will the nations take it? That seed is love, unselfish love, the love of God in human hearts. It is a love that serves, that refuses to profit at another's expense, that finds its reward in the glow of doing good and in the gratitude of those who are benefitted. "Ye know," Jesus said to His disciples, who were quarreling over who was the greatest, "ye know that they which are accounted to rule over the Gentiles exercise lordship over them; and their great ones exercise authority upon them. But so shall it not be among you: but whosoever will be great among you, shall be your minister: and whosoever of you will be chiefest, shall be servant of all. For even the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to

give His life a ransom for many." Mark 10: 42-45.

How many men want this seed? How many nations will take it? How many parents will plant it in their babes? How many teachers will cultivate it in their children? How many leaders of capital and labor will utilize it in their relations? How many statesmen will make it their guiding principle? Not words merely. Acts! Lives that show the indwelling power of love, the image of the divine!

Impractical? It is impracticable for the world, because men of the world will not accept the love of God in their hearts? But it is not impracticable for the Christian; for it is the way of Christ. The other way is the way of war, the way of self-destruction, the way of mass death. Democracy is no savior; for Demos is whatever he has been trained to be, and a selfish democracy ends inevitably in a tyranny. There is no hope but in God; and God is love.

When the homes and the schools and the churches and the community clubs and the press and the radio learn that selfishness, competition, rivalry, strife, is the

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A SLAVE Changes Owners

By CHARLES L. PADDOCK



IT WAS AUCTION DAY in a slave market of Cairo in old Egypt. Men and women were being sold under the auctioneer's hammer, to the highest bidders. A clean-cut, fine-looking, well-built, black man was on the block, and bidding for him was about to begin. There seemed to be an unusual interest in this particular slave, and a number of prospective buyers were talking to the owner. Some were carefully examining the black man on the block.

Among the prospective buyers was a middle-aged gentleman of refinement. The black man heard him talking to his master, and a feeling of hate welled up in his heart. "I could thrust a dagger into his heart," the slave whispered to a fellow slave near by.

Bidding started, and the sale was soon made. The gentleman paid the owner of the slave the necessary money, and received a bill of sale in return. Walking over to the black man, with a piece of paper in one hand and a large roll of paper money in the other, he extended

the hand containing the bill of sale and said, "You are a free man. Here is a receipt, showing that I have paid for your freedom." Extending the other hand he went on, "And here is money which you may use in getting a start in life. Your days of slavery are over. You are free."

"You don't mean," questioned the black man, "that I can now do as I please, that I no longer have a master, that I am my own boss?"

"That's exactly what I mean," replied the big-hearted stranger.

The astonished, bewildered slave thought for a moment. He seemed to be speechless. Then he said, "I have a request to make of you, sir. If what you say is true, won't you let me go with you and be your servant as long as I live?"

You and I were born in sin. Jesus died to make us free. Should we be less grateful than was this slave? Should we not desire to serve Him as long as we live? He died for us, and we surely can do no less than to live for Him.

HERBERT HOOVER, former President of the United States, toured the world at the behest of President Truman in the effort to provide relief to the famine stricken areas of Europe and Asia. On his return, the editors of *World Report* interviewed him. In their issue of May 30, 1946, they record this question and answer of that interview:

"What would you say was the mood of the peoples in the various countries that you have visited? Is it a mood of resignation, or is there a feeling of hope concerning the future of the world?"

"Answer: The dominant emotion everywhere in the world is fear. This applies to

books we read, things like iron, silver, gold, and the other basic elements, as inert, solid things.

We have been driven to realize that these things are all forms of seething, electrical, cosmic force, vibrant with incredible energy. We have been given a dramatic demonstration that matter can be transformed into force—and such force as men can scarcely comprehend. A titanic power has been discovered and a new weapon of unparalleled destructiveness has been developed. Illimitable potentialities for desolation have penetrated

into possession of God-like power. In God's control such power need arouse no fears. That is not the case when such power is in man's hands.

Power such as this is the special prerogative of God—and God alone. "God hath spoken once; twice have I heard this; that power belongeth unto God." Psalm 62: 11.

Power is safe in God's control. It is safe there because God has a character

APPREHENSION!

It Permeates the Atmosphere of the World

every part of human activities—finance, industry, farmers, workers, thinkers, and government officials. After the last war there arose a spirit of hope and confidence. Little has appeared as yet."

In the article with the significant title "I'm a Frightened Man," in *Collier's* of January 5, 1946, Dr. Harold C. Urey, one of the scientists who worked on the atomic bomb, writes:

"I hear endless echoes of old rivalries and jealousies among the allies. There is evidence of a new nationalism based, as always, on fear. Smaller nations are enfolded by the larger powers, whether swallowed whole or merely 'protected' or huddled together through fear. . . . We will perhaps see a world divided into two great spheres of interest, east and west, afraid of each other, *afraid of one unguarded word*. Freedom from fear?

"We will eat fear, sleep fear, live in fear, and die in fear."

Major General Leslie R. Graves, the man in charge of developing the atomic bomb dropped on Hiroshima, told Congress: "We're flirting with national suicide if this thing gets out of control."

The year 1945 introduced the man in the street to the atom—and changed the thinking of the world. Then began the Age of Fear.

Most of us up to that time had thought of matter, the tools we worked with, the

By CARLYLE B. HAYNES

into the thinking of humanity, creating a growing, horrible dread that man may pull down the temple of civilization which he has so laboriously built.

The very scientists who worked on the atomic bomb have become so terror-stricken at its dread possibilities that they have approached incoherency in their clamorous appeals that statesmen devise means to protect society against the work of their hands. And the statesmen, up to now, have found themselves nearly bereft, both of ideas and words, to reassure either themselves or the fear-stricken public.

Astute world leaders are attempting to utilize the tidal wave of fright thus generated, and channel it into what General Eisenhower has termed "black-mailing the world into peace." World leaders meet again and again, and as they endeavor to work out a plan to control atomic energy and safeguard humanity from destruction, their insistent, urgent cry to the world is, "Learn to live in peace—or perish."

Men do well to raise the question of the dread possibilities in fallen man's coming

which makes it safe, a character which rightly controls power, using it only in ways that are right, and for purposes which accomplish only that which is right. That cannot be said of man.

God is omnipotent, all-powerful. Greater than the omnipotence of God, however, is the perfect character of God. It is this that controls the exercise of omnipotence.

God's high moral character makes it impossible for Him to misuse His omnipotence. Character is not so much made up



of impulses as of restraints. The character of God prevents Him from doing anything that is unjust, or unkind, or wrong. Consequently He can be trusted with omnipotence.

Mankind has no such character. When men come into possession of God-like power, sinister possibilities of untold evil hang over all the earth.

It is this that makes men afraid. Sir Oliver Lodge recognized this. Shortly after World War I, in the Academy of Science in London, he exclaimed: "I pray God that we do not learn the lesson of controlling this terrific force until we first shall have learned the lesson of self-control."

And man has not learned the lesson of self-control. But he has, meanwhile, discovered the secret of cosmic energy. And we do well to fear what he will do with it.

And so everywhere and in every social stratum, thinking men are afraid. That is the outstanding characteristic of the age in which we live.

Such a development has been long foretold. The Son of God stood on Mount Olivet 19 centuries ago. He looked down through the centuries stretching between His first and second comings. He saw the last generation of men. He described its outstanding characteristics. He was replying to a question put to Him by His disciples. They had asked, "What shall be the sign of Thy coming, and of the end of the world?" Matthew 24: 3.

His reply covered the chief developments of the Christian centuries. Then as His vision penetrated to the end, He spoke of the developments of that end time. He said:

"There will be signs in sun and moon and stars; and upon the earth distress of nations, in perplexity for the roaring of the sea and the billows, men fainting with fear, and for expectation of the things that are coming on the world: for the powers of the heavens shall be shaken. And then shall they see the Son of man coming in a cloud with power and great glory." Luke 21: 25-27, A.R.V.

The Berkeley Version of the New Testament also emphasizes this elemental fear in translating this passage. It reads:

"Distress on earth among the nations, bewildered at the roaring of the sea and waves; men swooning from dread and apprehension about events that are taking place in the world; for the powers of the heavens shall be shaken."

Moffatt translates this impressive text and words of our Lord's prediction in this way:

"On earth the nations will be in dismay with bewilderment at the roar of sea and waves, men swooning with panic and fore-

Aunt Ella

By NATHANIEL KRUM

She is sleeping in the valley
'Mong the Pennsylvania hills,
But the memory of her noble life
My heart with courage fills.

Blind from youth, till life was ended,
Scarce a house to call her own,
She had cause enough for sorrow,
Cause enough to fret and moan.

Though her days were dark and dreary,
Earthly friends were few and far,
She found light and love, in making
Jesus Christ her Guiding Star.

Never argued on the Bible,
Never preached, as preachers do;
Never flaunted her religion
In the market place or pew.

But she preached a better sermon
By a life of Christian grace;
By her deeds of self-denial;
By the smile upon her face.

And although she now is sleeping
In the valley far away,
Her consistent life still teaches
Precious lessons for our day.

In the sight of God and heaven,
As man up life's ladder mounts,
We are judged, not by our preach-
ing—
It's the life we live that counts.

boding of what is to befall the universe for the orbs of the heavens will be shaken."

The Weymouth translation puts it:

"On earth anguish among the nations in their bewilderment at the roaring of the sea and its billows; while men's hearts are fainting for fear and for the anxious expectation of what is coming on the world; for the forces which control the heavens will be disordered and disturbed."

We are now at that time foreseen and foretold by our Lord. The word translated in this passage as "perplexity," "distress," "dismay," does not occur elsewhere in the New Testament. No other writer used it. The Greek word so translated, and which was used by the Son of God to convey His meaning, is the word "aporia." It literally means, "without a passage out."

What a picture that brings to the mind. No way out! The end of the way—a dead end! No exit! Caught! Trapped! Men looking here, looking there, trying this,

trying that, trying everything, darting about for a way of escape, frantically suggesting every wild, impossible thing—but finding no way out! *Aporia!* Perplexity! Bewilderment! Apprehension! Dire foreboding! Doom impending—and no way out! The best wisdom of the wisest, the greatest strength of the strongest—all futile! Men find no way to provide, or discover, or invent, or devise, or bring about, deliverance and security! We are at the end—uncertainty—confusion—fear—terror—and no way out.

That is a divinely portrayed picture of "the last days," our days, the end of human history.

In the intense light of the atom bomb and all the dread possibilities before mankind, we have no difficulty in discerning that it is a terribly accurate picture. If these needed explanation and comment—which they do not—nothing could be more accurate than the words of the late H. G. Wells, "mankind at the end of his tether!"

Man Holds Great Power

With the tapping of cosmic energy, the primordial energy of the universe, surely man has come to the limits which were set for him. In the beginning he was seduced by an enemy into believing he could become as God, knowing good and evil. He now holds a power in his hands which could be used for good; but his first use of it was for destruction.

Those of us who have looked upon the return of the Lord as a blessed hope must now look upon it as an urgent necessity. And while we wait we may be unafraid, for His "perfect love casteth out fear." 1 John 4: 18. "He that doeth the will of God abideth forever." 1 John 2: 17.

The coming of the Atomic Age means one thing to the waiting people of God. It means, "The night is far spent; the day is at hand—at hand—AT HAND!"

My "Tunnel" Experience

(Continued from page 2)

the "darkness hideth not from Thee;" and that when the faces of our closest earthly friends are hid from us we may still have the blessed assurance that we have the companionship of our Saviour, who passed through His Gethsemane alone. So let us not resent these "tunnel experiences." Let us realize that sometimes it is necessary to shut out the world that we may be shut in with Him—realizing also that these "tunnels" connect not two great sections of an earthly continent, but pierce the barriers between a sinful earth and a heavenly country.

S AID PAUL in Hebrews 13: 8: "Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and today, and forever." Isaiah says of Christ: "Of the increase of His government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon His kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even forever." Isaiah 9: 7. When God made a promise to David He said: "He shall build an house for My name, and I will stablish the throne of His kingdom forever." 2 Samuel 7: 13.

One theme forms the basis of all that the prophets have written: "The restitution of all things." Acts 3: 21. Saints of all ages have looked forward to the fulfilling of these promises and to that time when the kingdom lost by Adam will be restored in Christ. As Jesus was about to leave His disciples and to ascend to His Father, they asked: "Lord, wilt Thou at this time restore again the kingdom to Israel?" Acts 1: 6. When the kingdom



sians 2: 20. Christ expressed it thus: "The stone which the builders rejected, the same is become the head of the corner."

Matthew 21: 42. This was quoted from Psalm 118: 22. This same stone and its endurance is beautifully expressed in Isaiah 28: 16: "Behold, I lay in Zion for a foundation a stone, a tried stone, a precious corner stone, a sure foundation." He was tried, tempted, and tested, and proved to be a sure foundation. Christ's kingdom will stand forever because it is founded upon a rock.

When Jesus gave utterance to the words, "Upon this rock I will build My church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it," He foretold the ultimate triumph of His church over its enemies and the restitution of the kingdom. To understand the expression "gates of hell" it is necessary to examine its usage in Old Testament history and prophecies. In Biblical times rulers or judges sat in the gate of a city. (See Genesis 19: 1, 9; Ruth 4: 1, 2; 2 Samuel

CHRIST FOREVER

His Is an Everlasting Kingdom

By W. ROBERT FRENCH

is again restored, it will be forever; there will be no end; there will be no successor on the throne. His kingdom and rule and law will stand fast forever because they "are done in truth and uprightness." Isaiah 9: 7; Psalm 111: 7, 8. The wise man has said: "The throne is established by righteousness." Proverbs 16: 12.

Stability and endurance depend upon character. This fact is illustrated and expressed beautifully by the symbols used in Deuteronomy 32: 3, 4: "I will publish the name of the Lord: ascribe ye greatness unto our God. He is the Rock, His work is perfect: for all His ways are judgment: a God of truth and without iniquity, just and right is He." The stability and endurance of His kingdom are illustrated and symbolized by the rock. It is called "The Rock of Ages." Isaiah 26: 4, margin. As enduring as the everlasting hills His kingdom will stand. Isaiah records God's words: "Is there a God beside Me? Yea, there is no God; I know not any." The margin of this text says, "There is no rock." There is no Rock besides the Rock of Ages. Jesus beautifully expressed the invincibility and endurance of His

kingdom in the words: "Upon this rock I will build My church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it." Matthew 16: 18. It will stand storm and tempest and the waves and hurricanes of Satan's wrath, and will stand forever because it is founded upon a rock. One insurance company illustrates the dependability of their company by the Rock of Gibraltar. The Rock of Gibraltar will melt away before the coming of the Son of man (Isaiah 64: 1, 2), but the kingdom of our Lord abides for ever.

The word "Rock" as used in the Scriptures signifies deity. The heathen have borrowed the symbol to describe their deities. It came into use in early biblical times. From "The Stone," "The Flinty Rock," Israel drank for 40 years. (Psalm 114: 7, 8.) That rock symbolized Christ. (1 Corinthians 10: 4.) That same Rock is the foundation of His church. Paul says: "And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief corner stone." Ephesians

15: 2-4; Esther 3: 1, 2). Courts sat in the gates, and whoever held the gates held the power to judge or rule.

The first prophecy of Christ's possessing the gates of His enemies is found in Genesis 22: 17, 18. In speaking to Abraham God said concerning His seed, which was Christ (Galatians 3: 16): "Thy Seed shall possess the gate of His enemies." These words foretold the ultimate triumph of Christ over Satan and the restoration of the kingdom by Christ, the Seed of Abraham. The second prophecy of the Old Testament to use the expression is very similar to the first. It is a statement made to Rebekah, the wife of Isaac and a progenitor of Christ, and is a prophecy of Christ. It reads: "Let thy seed possess the gate of those which hate them." Genesis 24: 60.

Bestowing upon a guest ruler or dignitary the key of the city is a custom that survives in our present generation from ancient Bible times. The time will come when Christ, who now holds the keys of the kingdom, will unlock Satan's prison house and set the captives free, when the kingdoms of this world will be restored to

their rightful owner and our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ will reign forever and ever. The last message which Christ sent back to His church was: "I am He that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive forevermore, Amen; and have the keys of hell and of death." Revelation 1: 18. He holds the keys; His is the power and the glory forever and forever.

Christ's power to take the kingdom from Satan and to restore it again to Israel is illustrated by the parable of the two strong men. (Luke 11: 15-22.) Satan is the "strong man." Christ is the "stronger Man" who binds the strong man, Satan, and then spoils his goods, or kingdom.

The Experience of Samson

Philistia was the land of the giants. Goliath was a descendant of a whole family of giants. The home of these giants was in Gaza, Gath, and Ashdod. (Joshua 11: 22.) In the days of these giants there was born in Israel a strong man by the name of Samson. He was stronger than any man living because the Spirit of the Lord rested upon him. He feared not to enter into the strong fortress of these giants, Gaza, and spend a night there. When his presence in the city was known, the gates of Gaza (strong iron gates) were locked and barred. The authorities said, "We will take him in the morning." At midnight Samson arose and went to the gates of the city; and, finding his exit barred, he pulled down the gates of Gaza and carried them many miles and deposited them on a mountain in Judah which was before Hebron. The gates of his enemy were his; he had possessed the gates of his enemy, and his enemy found to his astonishment only a wide, gaping hole in the wall where once had been the gates of his strength.

The ultimate triumph of Christ over Satan is forcefully foretold and illustrated by this experience of Samson and assured to mankind by the resurrection of Christ from the dead. (1 Peter 1: 3.) Christ, like Samson, feared not to enter into the strong man's house, the grave. He was interred in a grave hewn out of the solid rock. Its entrance was barred by a great stone, and this stone was sealed with a Roman seal; but all of these bonds could not retain the sinless Christ. He burst asunder the fetters of the tomb and stepped across the threshold of Joseph's new tomb, proclaiming over the rent sepulcher, "I am the resurrection and the life." He now holds the keys of hell and of death. He will return in majesty and glory as King of kings and Lord of lords and will spoil Satan's dominion, and He will bear the glory and reign forever and forever.

This final end of Satan's kingdom and

the setting up of Christ's kingdom is foretold and described in the prophecy of the second chapter of Daniel. Nebuchadnezzar saw in a dream a great image made of various metals. This image represented the history of this world, and each separate metal represented a kingdom. All of these kingdoms Satan claimed as his and offered them to Christ. Christ refused to accept them and rule under Satan. He looked forward to the time when the God of heaven would set up a kingdom that would stand forever. In the dream of Nebuchadnezzar this kingdom of God was represented by a stone. This stone smote the image and ground it to powder and the wind carried away the powder. Then the stone that smote the image became a great mountain and filled the entire earth. (Daniel 2: 34, 35.)

Thus the kingdoms of the earth become the kingdoms of Christ. Of His kingdom there will be no end. The prophet said: "In the days of these kings shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom which shall never be destroyed: and the kingdom shall not be left to other people, but it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand forever." Daniel 2: 44. Then shall the kingdom be given to the saints of the Most High and the righteous shall inherit the kingdom and dwell therein forever and forever.

When Jesus shall come in His glory, He will separate the nations as a shepherd divides his sheep from the goats; and then He will say to them on His right hand: "Come, ye blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world." Matthew 25: 34. We would say with the beloved John, "Even so, come, Lord Jesus." Revelation 22: 20.

The Law of Redemption

In the Old Testament, Christ, His life, His death, and His work, are taught in type, in object lesson, in history, and in precept. The book of Ruth illustrates the law of the redemption of the lost inheritance. One near of kin was required as the redeemer. He must take the redeemed for his bride. Christ, near of kin to humanity (Hebrews 2: 11, 14), redeems the lost inheritance and takes the church to be His bride. He will present her to Himself a glorious church (Ephesians 5: 27), and she shall dwell with Him forever. We praise God for such a wonderful Saviour and salvation. We would say with Isaiah: "Behold, God is my salvation; I will trust, and not be afraid: for the Lord JEHOVAH is my strength and my song; He also is become my salvation. Therefore with joy shall ye draw water out of the wells of salvation." Isaiah 12: 2, 3.

TERSE TOPICS

FROM A LEAK TO A FLOOD—"The American people still fear that before very long the economic roof will leak and let in a flood of unemployment. Just when the downpour will come, few presume to know—perhaps in 1948, perhaps not till 1951. But that it will come a majority feel as certain as they do of death or taxes."—C. H. Grattan, *Harper's Magazine*, December, 1946.

MILITARY COSTS—Between \$10,000,000,000 and \$12,000,000,000 will be expended by the Army and Navy in the next fiscal year. The requests of these two branches of the service exceed those made for the present fiscal year. Top ranking Navy officials are making it clear that, in the light of world conditions, the U. S. Navy should be large enough to police the world.

CIGARETTES FOR THE GIRLS—Sarah Blanding, Vassar's new "prexy," offers the girls cigarettes when they come to her office for an interview. This fact was revealed in *Collier's* (November 23, 1946). In these personal interviews with her students she frankly confessed her use of slang, for that, according to the "prexy," is talking to them "in their own language."

MINISTERS WANT GUNS—Twelve pastors of Steubenville, Ohio, asked the city council for permission to carry guns so that they could initiate an anti-vice campaign in that city. The request was turned down.

DEATH RAY—The U. S. Government is sponsoring a first-rate engineer, Dr. Albert F. Murray, in the development of a death ray. It is believed that atomic energy supplies a source of radiation that can be used for such a ray. According to *Time* (December 2, 1946) "death rays may be available to enliven World War III."

THAT THE Roman Catholic Church is becoming more and more a mighty power in the earth is now taken for granted by the alert observers and astute thinkers of our time. Her widely heralded championship of anti-communism is alone enough to set her on high. For, if we may judge by the aggressive claims and threats of that arch-communistic nation, the U.S.S.R., the religio-political doctrines of Karl Marx, in action, are the most sinister menace to our beloved democracy. And he who champions democracy now has the Western world's acclaim.

To all appearances, however, the fight of the papacy against communism was stirred up by communism's drawing the sword against the papacy, rather than because Catholicism is dead set against Russia. For the Vatican can uphold fascism in Spain, dictatorships in South America, and democracy in the United States with equal relish and inconsistency. But woe be to any system of government that opposes the rule of "the Church." This queer twist to "being all things to all men" is characteristic of Rome.

The Vatican church-state is gaining ever greater prestige as nearly all the paramount powers place their embassies with it and acknowledge it as an international necessity to much-coveted world amity; yes, desperately needed world amity in view of the atomic bomb. Quick to bid for every prestige of floating power, the pope's eye roves to and fro over the earth, penetrating every country, seeking to win every class. He can burn Bibles in one nation and advocate their wide distribution and reading in another. He can insist on religious liberty for minorities in a country where Catholics are in the minority, and deny it absolutely to minorities in countries where Catholics are in the majority—all with the greatest aplomb. Any means to an end—the elevation of "the Church."

Papal Propaganda

Never before has papal propaganda been so winning and subtle, by tracts, advertisements, sermons, radio "hours," charities; through secret orders, lobbyists, and schools. It is appealing to high and low, from statesmen and professional people to the "oppressed classes." And it is gaining adherents from among them by the thousands, from Senator Wagner and Claire Luce to an ex-communist editor. Totalitarian in religion, it professes love for all mankind. Posing as foot-washer of the world, it sits a queen.

Let an impasse occur at the peace tables of Paris or the shambles of Jerusalem, and the Vatican rushes in to offer its services as arbitrator. But let Protestants through

the World Council of Churches offer to work with Catholics for a Christian world peace, and the Vatican turns a deaf ear, which in effect says, "Let Protestants come all the way back to 'the mother

One very important detail of this notable line of prophecy was left for consideration in this article. It reads thus: "I considered the horns [the 10 horns on the symbolic beast representing Rome and its break-down into modern European nations], and, behold, there came up among them another little horn, before whom there were three of the first horns plucked



ROME in the

Papal Practices and

By ROBERT BRUCE THURBER

church' before we can work together for anything." Pride and self-assurance personified!

No doubt about it, Catholicism is in the vast ascendancy now. It dominates the screen, the stage, the microphone, the press, the schools, the labor unions, and many legislative halls. Thousands of all religions, and no religion, are flocking to it, attracted largely by its pomp and power. And many who do not succumb to its lure refrain only because they dislike to leave "the religion of their fathers,"—in itself a weak reason.

We do not say all this to laud the papacy, but to identify it. For be sure that no such towering figure could hold sway over religion, politics, society, and business today without coming into the sights of the biblical prophetic telescope. It will be more than interesting, even vital, to see how it looks to the God whom it professes to worship, and to the seers of the Bible which it professes to revere.

A previous article, in last month's issue of this Magazine, surveyed the sweep of forecast history as pictured by God to the prophet Daniel. Four composite animals appeared, which symbolized the four universal empires of ancient times—Babylon, Medo-Persia, Greece, and Rome. The fourth "beast" had 10 horns, representing the 10 parts into which Rome was divided. A majority of these European nations exist at the present time, and will continue as national entities till the close of this world's history, according to the biblical prediction. (Daniel 2: 44.)



up by the roots: and, behold, in this horn were eyes like the eyes of man, and a mouth speaking great things." Daniel 7: 8. And later the prophet adds, "That

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horn that had eyes, and a mouth that spake very great things, whose look was more stout than his fellows. I beheld, and the same horn made war with the saints, and prevailed against them." Verses 20, 21.

When Daniel would know what all this meant, the heavenly attendant interpreted: "The ten horns out of this kingdom are ten kings that shall arise: and another shall rise after them; and he shall be diverse from the first, and he shall

subdue three kings. And he shall speak great words against the Most High, and shall wear out the saints of the Most High, and think to change times and laws: and they shall be given into his hand until a time, and times and the dividing of time." Verses 24, 25.

Thus attention is centered on an eleventh horn, first little, then more stout than any of the 10, and "diverse" from them, speaking great words and doing

tions can be overthrown—the sword. In the history of the Roman Empire, the Catholic Church alone meets this specification.

Count two: Seemingly to make room for this little horn to rise, three of the 10 former horns were "plucked up by the roots." Of the 10 nations into which the Roman Empire was divided, seven sided with the papacy in the doctrinal disputes of the times; and three were "heretical,"—the Vandals, the Ostrogoths, and the Heruli. Under the instigation of the papacy, these three were entirely obliterated as nations. Try to find any trace of them today.

Count three: While little at first, this horn soon looked "more stout than his fellows." Says Well's "Outline of History;" "As the barbarian races settled and became Christian, the pope began to claim an overlordship of their kings. In a few centuries the pope had become in theory, and to a certain extent in practice, the high priest, censor, judge, and divine monarch of Christendom."—Page 526.

"Eyes Like a Man"

Count four: "Eyes like the eyes of man." No power in history has so emphasized the importance of its leader, a man, as has Catholicism. Astute, cunning, the pope's *ex cathedra* command is accepted by millions as law.

Count five: Though a professedly Christian power, believer in the Godhead, yet this towering church-state was to "speak great words against the Most High." This it did by claiming to speak in the place of God, "so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God," as another Bible prophecy puts it. (Paul, in 2 Thessalonians 2: 4.)

Here is identification by the boasts of the Catholics themselves: "The pope is of so great dignity, and so exalted, that he is not a mere man, but as it were God, and the vicar of God. . . . So that whatever the pope does, seems to proceed from the mouth of God. . . . The pope is as it were God on earth."—Ferraris's "Ecclesiastical Dictionary." "We hold upon this earth the place of God Almighty."—"The Great Encyclical Letters of Leo XIII," page 304.

Count six: This horn makes war with the saints, prevails against them, wears them out. Religious and political history is replete with evidence of the fulfillment of this by the Roman Church. Some estimates run as high as 50,000,000 saintly martyrs put to death by such diabolical instruments as the Inquisition during the Dark Ages, and for no reason other than that they did not believe as the Church

(Continued on page 19)

Bible Mirror

am Scrutinized

Pope Pius XII is here shown delivering a special homily for peace among the nations. But, while urging world peace, the Pontiff follows the contradictory policy of inciting hatred against Russia—the despised enemy of the pompous and powerful papal church.

great deeds, all against God. What power could this phenomenal horn represent? History answers prophecy. Overwhelming evidence shows that the Roman Catholic Church, and only that power, meets any and all of the specifications listed. We will note these in order.

Count one: This little-horn power was "diverse from the first," different from the other 10. They were political; it was religious, a church, yet arrogating to itself dominance over civil governments, for it attacked three of them, and it must have been with the only weapon by which na-



The Pope rises [breaking a precedent] to greet Myron C. Taylor, personal representative of the President of the United States to the Vatican.





U. S. Prepares for War in Alaska

"THE U. S. ARMY and Navy—and the Russians—are building vast networks of defenses in the far north." (See *Look*, December 10, 1946.) The military leaders are of the opinion that in any future war the enemy would fly over the top of the world to strike our cities. In harmony with this belief they are arming our northern frontier against such an attack. General Billy Mitchell stated in 1935 before the House Military Affairs Committee that, "Alaska is the most central place in the world for aircraft and that is true either of Europe, Asia, or North America. I believe, in the future, he who holds Alaska will hold the world, and I think it is the most strategic place in the world."

Though much of what is being done is secret, it is known that a number of air and naval bases are being established and heavily fortified. The Army is carrying on maneuvers and conducting tests with tanks, self-propelled guns, special snow vehicles, radar, arctic kitchens, rations, and clothing. The Marines are developing landing tactics on the icy shores. Long range fighter planes and B-29's are established at Elmendorf field outside of Anchorage and are able to strike at almost any point in Asia or Europe. According to *Look*, "a sharp spur to this planning is Russian activity in the Far North." It also states that "Washington still pins its hopes on peace. But it remembers Pearl Harbor."

With all this preparation for war, and with the heated debates in the so-called peace councils continuing unabated, we

cannot help but think of the prophecy that pertains to the closing events of human history as revealed in the following words: "And the nations were angry, and Thy wrath is come, and the time of the dead, that they should be judged, and that Thou shouldest give reward unto Thy servants the prophets, and to the saints, and them that fear Thy name, small and great; and shouldest destroy them which destroy the earth." Revelation 11: 18.



Phenomenal Speed

THIS IS an age of speed. The latest evidence of man's desire to travel at greater speeds than ever before is found in jet propulsion. The P-80 Shooting Star propellerless jet plane can "whisk through the air at 600 mph, make a sudden turn and spurt straight up an incredible 15,000 feet." (See *Life*, December 9, 1946.) This plane can be flown to a speed that throws it out of control. The pilot must be an expert or he may plunge the ship into a wild screaming dive past the speed of sound.

It is an awe-inspiring sight to see a jet plane hurtling through the air at a phenomenal rate of speed and almost noiselessly except for a slight singing hum. To witness it as it takes a vertical leap two miles in 14 seconds is a startling experience. Conventional planes almost appear to be standing still when they are passed by these fast-flying ships. The combat planes of the last war are completely outmaneuvered and outdistanced by jet planes.

All lines of travel have speeded up in the last few decades. Compare the rate of

speed of the first railroad train in America—the "Tom Thumb" that traveled four mph, with the modern streamlined train. Compare the early automobile with top speeds at from five to 15 mph, with the latest high-powered cars. Only in recent years have we seen such advance in travel speed. One hundred years ago men were traveling on slow beasts of burden, in covered wagons, and by laborious conveyances which they propelled themselves. Whereas it once took months and even years to travel from one country to another, in most cases today the same distances can be traveled in a matter of a few hours.

These rapid means of travel are a wonderful aid in quickly carrying the gospel to all the world. How fine it would be if men would concentrate on this instead of using such marvelous inventions for more destructive and brutal wars.

It is interesting to find that the Bible mentions the modern vehicles of our day. Though the prophet did not call them by the names we give them because he lived in the day of chariots, yet the picture is clearly presented as follows: "In the day of His preparation [time of the coming of the Lord]. . . The chariots [vehicles] shall rage in the streets, they shall jostle one against another in the broad ways they shall seem like torches [shining head lights], they shall run like the lightnings." Nahum 2: 3, 4.



Battling Booze with Billboards

PUBLIC OPINION against the increasing drunkenness and consequent lawlessness resulting from our nation's enormous liquor traffic is steadily rising. The flood of alcoholic beverages that has been let loose in the United States in recent years has made life more and more perilous in our land. The reaction against it is greatly helping the forces who labor to stem the toxic tide.

It is with satisfaction that we note the effort being put forth by the booze-battling forces in the North. The American Temperance Society of Seventh-day Adventists in Michigan have launched a campaign of temperance education that really deserves our support and commendation. Thus far they have placed along Michigan's principal highways 34 large billboards, each having an inside advertising space of six by 20 feet in size. The

A commendable program of advertising has been started in Michigan by the Seventh-day Adventist Church to combat liquor. Other States might well institute such a program also.



accompanying photograph pictures one of them. While the general scheme is maintained from year to year so that the board is recognized immediately, the message is changed annually. The program is now in its second year. Most of the temperance messages presented in this way are from the world's great leaders and benefactors, notable men and women who have spoken and written against the use of intoxicating drink.

The campaign in Michigan has been so successful that the plan has been adopted in Indiana, where 11 such billboards have already been erected along the state's main highways.

Such humanitarian efforts for the betterment of social conditions deserve the generous financial support and encouragement of those who stand for law, order, health, and prosperity



The Army's new P-80 "Shooting Star" jet plane is capable of speeds that are phenomenal and that completely outdistance the conventional model planes.



Atheist Robert Harold Scott, of Palo Alto, California stands before a microphone to preach the doctrine of Atheism. May he and his listeners read the article entitled "Seven Reasons Why a Scientist Believes in God," by A. Cressy Morrison, *The Readers' Digest*, November, 1946.



Why a Scientist Believes in God

"EVERY increase of [scientific] light reveals more brightly the handiwork of an intelligent Creator. In the 90 years since Darwin we have made stupendous discoveries; with a spirit of scientific humility and of faith grounded in knowledge we are approaching even nearer to an awareness of God." These statements were made by A. Cressy Morrison, former

president of the New York Academy of Sciences, in his book entitled, *Man Does Not Stand Alone*.

The Reader's Digest, December, 1946, presents the reasons given by this scientist for his belief in God. He refers to the rotation of the earth on its axis at 1000 mph, and reveals that if it turned at only 100 mph, our days and nights would be 10 times as long, and the sun would burn up our vegetation each long day while the long nights would result in freezing what sprouts remained. He also states that "if the sun gave off only one half its present radiation, we would freeze, and if it gave off half as much more, we would roast." If the moon was as close as 50,000 miles from the earth, the tides would completely cover the continents. If the crust of the earth had been 10 feet thicker, the animal life would perish for lack of oxygen. If the atmosphere had been much thinner, great numbers of meteors would be striking the earth and setting fires everywhere.

Mr. Morrison mentions the young salmon's spending years at sea, then fighting his way back to the very tributary where he was born. He refers to the amazing mystery of the eels who migrate from streams in all parts of the world to Bermuda where they breed and die. The little ones find their way back to their home waters from which their parents came. "No American eel has ever been caught in Europe, no European eel in American waters." Nature even allowed the European eel one year longer to mature to make up for its long journey home.

A wasp will sting a grasshopper in exactly the right place to put him into a state of unconsciousness but does not kill

him. She buries her victim and then lays her eggs handily so that her children, after hatching, can nibble on the live insect. If they were to eat dead meat it would be fatal. The mother never sees her young, for she flies away and dies. However, the mysterious technique accomplishes the purpose intended, else there would be no wasps.

This scientist, who sees the hand of God in the mysteries of the created universe, tells of the prodigious growth of a species of cactus that was planted in Australia some years ago. Because of the alarming abundance that soon spread over a large area, crowding inhabitants out of towns and villages, and destroying farms, entomologists searched throughout the world for a defense. They found an insect that lived exclusively on cactus and that multiplied very rapidly. The cactus threat was soon overcome. The insects decreased in number proportionately to the decrease of the cactus.

Such checks and balances are a marvel. Still more marvelous is the fact that fast-breeding insects are not permitted to dominate the earth. Mr. Morrison states that they cannot become a threat "because they have no lungs such as man possesses; they breathe through tubes. But when insects grow large, their tubes do not grow in ratio to the increasing size of the body. Hence there never has been an insect of great size; this limitation on growth has held them all in check.

In reiterating his faith in God, A. Cressy Morrison quotes the following Bible test: "The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth His handy-work." Psalm 19: 1.

LOOK OUT, YOU'LL BURN YOURSELF

Burns -- Causes and Cautions

By COL. GEORGE A. SKINNER, M.D.



To review these classes we will recall how they differ. First degree burns are the kind we get from just touching hot surfaces or getting the hands or feet slightly scalded by hot liquids, hot fats, or by singeing by fire. By singeing is meant that the surface is reddened, or the hair burned off, causing a good deal of smarting. Ordinary sunburn is a very good illustration of a first degree burn, and the injury is exactly the same as if caused by fire. The skin is usually very red and smarts and stings very severely at times. This is due to the damage that has taken place in the true skin, which is the part under the outside protective layer. It is the same as when the skin is rubbed off by a slight injury, such as skinning the back of the hand or the knee from a fall. If quickly covered with a solution of soda or cold tea, the injured place will soon stop smarting, but it will be several days before the skin is really comfortable again, and perhaps there will be considerable peeling and a "new" and tender skin remain for several days more. These burns do not leave scars, as the true skin is not damaged permanently though often severely irritated.

Second degree burns are the kind that go somewhat deeper and damage the true, or under, skin so that it "weeps" and causes blisters of various sizes. Such burns over a large area may be very serious and are always very painful. They result from larger contact with the burning agent so that the heat gets through the protecting or "armor" coat of the skin and damages the much more delicate structures underneath. This also brings the damage in direct contact with the nerve fibers; and when these nerve endings are damaged, the pain is severe and likely to keep up.

Third degree burns are always serious and often deforming and disabling. The amount of damage depends upon how deep the burn is and what structures are involved. A deep burn of the hand would

WE HAVE already discussed burns (Article No. 2, Causes of Home Accidents) but the subject is of such importance that a review of it with more details may help us to keep in mind how frequent and serious burns may be.

As mentioned, though burns usually suggest fire, there are numerous other causes. Probably hot liquid burns in the home are the commonest, for hot water, hot soup, grease, coffee, or tea, all may be spilled on the hands or feet readily. Usually the clothing protects other parts of the body and fortunately spilled liquids rarely reach the face. But burns on the arms from touching hot ovens and utensils are quite common, though usually slight. In addition electric burns are now quite frequent from "live wires" not properly protected or exposed by break in insulation. Chemical burns from acids or strong alkalis such as lye, occur much too often, especially among children. Sunburn is so common that we often forget that it may be serious, certainly painful. Burns from friction, such as from the pulling of a rope through the hands too rapidly, are quite painful and slow in healing. A hot wind may also cause burns even though one is in the shade.

The danger of fire from cleaning fluids,

open fireplaces, or playing with matches, must ever be kept in mind where there are children, for clothing may easily be ignited from open fires or matches. Curtains may blow against a flame, as over a gas stove. Where lamps are used, and especially candles, accidents are much more common. It should be remembered that the friction of rubbing woolen cloth, especially in cold weather, easily produces sparks, which may ignite cleaning fluids. Many such fluids are highly inflammable and flash into flame very easily. Serious burns result from such accidents. Such cleaning should always be done in the open or moving air to avoid explosive mixtures.

Practically all burns have about the same effect on the body, and that may be anything from annoyance and smarting to destruction of life. There is no sharp line separating the burns of differing severity, but in order to understand what is meant and so that all will get the same ideas when reading or talking about them, they are usually described as of different degrees. Three such divisions cover them all, and the same person may have all three, depending upon how serious the burns may be in different localities. Sometimes the burn may be very deep and serious in the center, while the near-by parts are slightly burned or only singed.

be much more disabling than a deep burn of the foot. Even a slight burn might destroy the eye, though it would damage the cheek only slightly.

Third degree burns are the deep burns that result from more prolonged contact with the burning agent. Gasoline fires, contact with red hot metal, burning oil, clothing on fire—all are likely to produce third degree burns. In these the skin is destroyed and the structures underneath more or less damaged. Usually there is quite deep destruction of the softer parts under the skin, which may not appear to be much damaged at first, but they soon die and must be removed by the surgeon or nature will gradually remove the dead tissue, or "slough" it out. The latter process is to be avoided whenever possible, as there is great danger of prolonged and serious infection in such a process.

In the third degree burns there is an added danger not usually present in the lesser burns unless the surface involved is large. This danger we call shock, and it may be so severe that it must be controlled before much can be done to restore the damage of the burns.

What one sees in this condition is usually a very pale face, which often looks actually shrunken, and a forehead covered with sweat. The patient may become unconscious, the pulse be hard to find at first, then likely to be rapid and weak, the breathing slow and shallow and the whole body feels cold. The shock has suspended much of the normal energy, the heart lacks force, and the blood pressure is very low; for the blood vessels have also lost force and have dilated, and most of the blood remains in the veins and little reaches the heart to be pumped back into the circulation.

"Secondary Shock"

Sometimes at first the patient will seem in fairly good condition, but all at once he will collapse or faint and the conditions described develop rapidly. This is known as "secondary shock." Just why this happens we cannot always tell, but it is probable that the force of the heart gradually goes down, from injured nerves or actual poisons taken into the circulation from the injury. The first, or "primary shock," or the later developments, should be handled immediately by skilled medical care. The patient should be kept as quiet as possible and warm until such aid is available.

Unless sure that the patient can swallow, it is better not to give anything by mouth. If possible the head should be lowered below the rest of the body in order to get as much blood as possible to the brain. If the condition is slight, there

will be a fairly quick recovery of consciousness. Then hot coffee or other stimulants may be given unless there is evidence of bleeding.

In most severe burns it is not advisable to try to remove the clothing from damaged areas. Leave this for the surgeon if possible. If not, cut it off carefully so as not to damage the structures underneath, as it usually sticks quite firmly. The pain at first may not be severe; but as soon as the patient begins to recover consciousness, the pain is very likely also to begin and

may soon become exceedingly severe.

The things necessary to prevent most serious complications are control of shock, prevention of infection, and relieving pain to the greatest extent possible. All of these require expert attention, so that any severely burned patient should be at once removed to a hospital, where constant attention is possible. Great care is necessary or the body may be seriously poisoned by the products of the burns, and infection is an ever present menace in the form

(Continued on page 18)



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.

Can anything be done to relieve hay fever?—P.O.

Hay fever in most cases seems to be an allergic manifestation and probably has many causes as to allergy. It is often most difficult to ascertain the particular pollen or dust or whatever it may be. However a simple remedy which seems to be most helpful in a large number of cases is the use of large doses of vitamin C. Using 100mg-size tablets take as many as 12 in 24 hours, spacing them so that they are distributed evenly over the waking hours. After relief is had, gradually cut down on the dose until it is determined how many are required daily to maintain the relief experienced. Keep this dose up until after the seasonal attack is over.

What are the ordinary symptoms of tuberculosis by which an individual may himself recognize it?—T.P.W.

Pulmonary tuberculosis should always be suspected in any cough or cold that lasts over six weeks. Especially is this true where the individual feels that he is in a generally run-down condition and has had a loss of weight and diminished appetite. An afternoon rise in temperature of a degree or more is of some importance. A productive cough of whitish sputum is often present. History of family tuberculosis or known exposure to the disease will aid one in being justly suspicious. Finally, of course, an X-ray diagnosis is the most important means of establishing the fact both of the certainty and also the seriousness of the infection, for the X-ray is both the earliest and the most accurate single means of diagnosis of tuberculosis.

Having used honey generously in my diet for years as a source of energy, I now am told that it is an animal product, that bees feed on animal excreta and that the honey is itself an excretion of the bee. Is this true?—J. R.

No, it is not true. Bees are remarkably clean

insects. While taking my medical course I spent some summers in the mountains with my apiary, harvesting in one season seven tons of extracted honey. Bees harvest honey and gather pollen from flowers, seldom seeking any other source of food except cracked fruit such as grapes. I have never seen them around offal or even dirty garbage, like flies or other insects. This nectar of flowers is a mixed sugar containing some sucrose or cane sugar. In the first pouch or honey sac the bee carries this to the hive, permitting only a small portion to pass into the second sac, or stomach, for its own nourishment. During the time of carrying, this nectar is inverted to dextrose and levulose. The levulose is found mostly in honeys that candy slowly and dextrose in those that candy quickly. Both have the same chemical formula, but the levulose must be changed by the intestine to dextrose before it is absorbed. This is a most wonderful arrangement thereby holding back its absorption so that the blood sugar curve does not rise too precipitately after eating honey, which might otherwise cause it to appear in the urine. Thus levulose honeys are especially good for infant feeding, replacing karo, which is ten per cent cane sugar.

Bees gathering honey may fly 10 miles with their precious load, and while flying they excrete on the wing, and I have never seen any contamination of their hive or their honey from this function. True you will find some pollen granules in honey which may occasionally make it allergic to a few persons; and when looked at under the microscope you will see an occasional hair off the bee's foot. But the fact remains that honey with its natural fruit sugar or grape sugar is one of the finest, cleanest, and most energizing of all foods. It is recommended by the Bible, and was eaten by both Christ and John the Baptist. Honey will keep, if well ripened, for at least 3,500 years; for honey of that age was found in the pyramids, still preserving its peculiar pleasant aromatic odor and excellent taste.

THE meteor shower which entered the earth's atmosphere a short time ago aroused special interest by reason of the fact that radar was used for the first time to observe and record the swarms, and also because the display provided an opportunity of testing certain theories which the scientists had been working out concerning meteors in general.

As a result of the observations it is now conclusively established that the swarms of meteors which every now and then invade the earth's atmosphere are actually

more than 100 meteors a minute throughout a whole night from nightfall to dawn. When they discovered from their calculations that the comet this time had crossed the earth's orbit only ten days before, they expected an even more intense display. But actually it was much less intense. The explanation has been offered that each successive approach to the earth may have deflected some of the meteors by gravitation so that they do not now cross the earth's orbit.

All this new knowledge of meteors

tribulation of those days [the end of the 1,260 years of papal domination in 1798] . . . the stars shall fall from heaven." Matthew 24: 29.

We now know that, in giving this "sign," God was revealing in a wonderful way His control of the heavenly bodies from the greatest suns down to the tiniest meteors.

He knew when "the tribulation of those days" would end on the earth, and in His divine wisdom He knew that "immediately" after the close of that period the

"THE STARS SHALL FALL"

Meteoric Showers a Sign of the Advent

By W. L. EMMERSON

part of the tails of comets, but so far back from the luminous nose and so cool that they are not visible until heated up again by shooting through a planetary atmosphere.

The particular comet whose attenuated tail the earth recently passed through was the Giacobini-Zinner comet, which we contacted last time in 1933.

The tiny meteors comprising the swarms are, in most cases, not more than an inch in diameter and are so quickly burned up in their passage through our atmosphere that very few get within sixty miles of the earth's surface. This is fortunate, because if they were much bigger we might be subject to frequent and very dangerous "bombings" from the outer space! The occasional ones that have landed have dropped, fortunately for us, in desolate regions like the Arizona and Gobi deserts, or they would have wrought incalculable damage, judging by the immense craters they made.

It is now believed that the craters of the moon may not be extinct volcanoes but the result of meteoric bombardment unhampered by any lunar atmosphere!

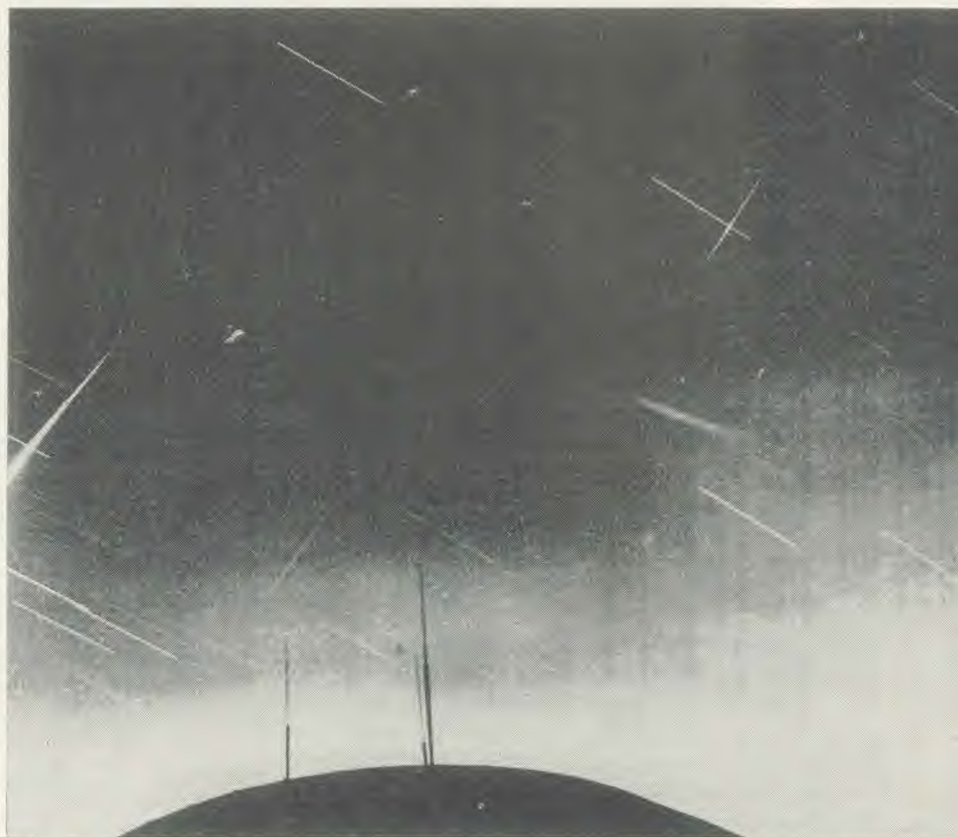
The intensity of a meteor shower is dependent, to a great extent, on the distance of the earth from the comet at the time when it crosses the comet's track. The closer the earth is to the comet, other factors being equal, the more numerous the specks of matter which enter the atmosphere and the more intense the celestial display.

That there are other factors, however, was the cause of disappointment to the astronomers on this latest occasion. They know that in 1933 the comet had crossed the earth's orbit eighty days before and visual observations in Europe had noted

sheds a flood of light on the most spectacular meteoric shower of all time which first made its appearance in 1799, reached its maximum intensity in 1833, decreased very considerably in 1866, and disappeared entirely in 1899—which many Bible students believe to be a fulfillment of the prophecy of our Lord that "immediately after the

earth would enter the track of the comet newly "lit up" by atomic fission, probably as a result of its approach to some great sun, and that the earth's passage through the comet's tail would be at such a point as to produce an outstanding display of celestial fireworks. He knew that these would be seen on successive occasions in the "time of the end" and that, having fulfilled their divinely appointed function, they would, by reason of gravitational displacement and other factors, decrease in intensity and at last completely disappear

A view of the recent meteor shower as seen across the sky above the dome of the Griffith Park Observatory in Los Angeles.



Nearly nineteen centuries passed, and then exactly on time and in accordance with the divine calculations, if we may so express the workings of the mind of God, the "sign" appeared and was recognized as one of the promised tokens of the return of the Son of man.

Surely we can put our trust in the word of such an One who knows "the end from the beginning" and have confidence that all the rest of His promises toward us yet unfulfilled will be "yea and amen" in Christ Jesus.

Was Noah's Flood Universal?

(Continued from page 3)

spread alluvial apron of sand and gravel was spread over the land. In Mexico boulders a foot or more in diameter and transported many miles from their source are common. Some of the quartz pebbles can be traced back to outcrops in the mountains of west Texas and New Mexico. The only hypothesis adequate to explain the widespread sheet of gravel . . . is floods of water. . . . The floods were terrific."—*Id.*, p. 784.

The plains of the western United States appear to be the remnants of a great flood plain, laid down by overloaded streams coming down from the Rocky Mountains.

These deposits lie in sand and gravel banks having crooked or winding courses with a west-east direction, and extending to depths of as much as 500 feet before the underlying shale or limestone rock is reached. The appearance indicates that great erosive forces carved the general contour of the rocks, after which vast streams of water, overloaded with sediment, built up the alluvial plains above the eroded surface. Normal conditions would not produce this situation. Violent water action is required to spread this sand and gravel so widely and so thickly.

"East of the Rocky Mountain front the story of these catastrophic events is indelibly impressed upon the sedimentary record. . . . Rapid erosion produced immense quantities of sand, gravel, and mud which were distributed over the plains into Kansas and Nebraska. During periods of relative quiet the mountain streams filled up their channels with alluvium. When renewed . . . movements were initiated, this was flushed out of the streams. This produced another apron of gravel and sand above the previous deposits."—W. A. Ver Wiebe, *Historical Geology*, p. 68.

In the Cypress Hills of Montana the alluvial deposits are very noticeable. One observer says of them:

"The pebbles . . . are mostly well rounded and have remarkably smooth and evenly polished surfaces, many of which are covered with percussion marks such as are produced by stones striking sharply against one another in a strong current. The source of the material is clearly the Rocky Mountains, 150 to 200 miles west. . . . In view of this distance, the size of the larger stones is remarkable. . . . The largest have dimensions of 8 by 10 by 12 inches. None . . . show any evidence of transportation by glacier ice."—W. C. Alden, in *U. S. Geol. Surv. Prof. Paper* 174.

I Own the World

By WELDON TAYLOR HAMMOND

I OWN the world—the whole wide world!
Do you wonder how this can be?
Well, love, and joy, and peace are mine,
And these mean all to me.
I own the things which cannot be bought
With millions in silver or gold,
For the finer things of life, dear friends,
Are neither bartered nor sold.

God's love is the source of hope and joy,
And peace is its fruitage true.
Seek these to fill your treasure ship
As you sail life's oceans blue,
Our wants, indeed, are many, and large,
Yet our needs are really few.
Find love, and joy, and peace in your quest,
And the world will belong to you!

Proof that these conditions are not like those prevailing in the world today may be found by examining the mouths of the great rivers of the world, for surely here, if anywhere, we ought to find sedimentary rocks being produced.

The Amazon is an example of a river with a vast basin largely covered by jungle. Surely no other river on earth has a better chance to produce beds of fossil plant material. Yet what do we find? In the flood season the basins along the river become great lakes, spreading out through the jungle and over the open areas. But no deposits are made except some fine muds. There is nothing to break down and bury the jungle in beds of sand and limestone and shale. At its mouth, the river is so quiet that its delta, about 150 miles wide, is

continually forming nothing but fine muds.

The Mississippi delta might be expected to show greater variety than the Amazon, since the Mississippi basin is largely one of plains rather than jungles. But again there is a noticeable lack of the stratified beds of various types that are common the world over.

Suppose we go to a region where the swiftest rivers of the earth are coming to the sea from some great mountain areas, as, for instance, the rivers of British Columbia or Norway. Here the very nearness of the mountains to the sea is due to abrupt slopes, so that the ocean waters adjoining the mountains are deep. If the rivers do bring down any gravel or boulders in the flood season, they are dropped into deep fjords or left as delta deposits in narrow canyons. There is no evidence anywhere of the formation of vast plains covered with gravel and sand such as we find in the rocks in the interior of our continents.

These examples are only a few of those that might be given. Wherever we turn, we are faced with the fact that something of the nature of a universal catastrophe has overwhelmed this old world. The supposition that past history has always been like the present does not agree with the evidence from the rocks. On every land are found abundant scars of a great flood of waters that swept everything before it and buried sand and gravel, silt and mud, plants and animals in one heterogeneous mixture. Although this mixture shows a considerable degree of organization, and the types of life found in it are in more or less of a systematic arrangement, yet the nature of the deposits indicates

clearly that they were produced by violent water action,—by water so violent that its effects were more extensive and more marked than anything that has been known in the history of mankind. A candid examination of the geological data forces us to conclude that the Flood was not a local affair, but a world-wide catastrophe.

WORDS OF WISDOM

"There is far more hunger for love and appreciation in this world than there is hunger for bread.

"The big things in life are never done by fussy people. Poise is one of the earmarks of mental strength.

"The reward of a thing well done is to have done it."—*Ralph Waldo Emerson.*



Mercy Killing

AN ATTEMPT is now being made in New York state to obtain legal sanction for mercy killing when it is requested by hopelessly sick persons. (See *The Catholic Digest*, December, 1946.) The proposed bill reads in part as follows: "Any person of sound mind over 21 who is suffering from severe physical pain caused by a disease for which no remedy affording lasting relief or recovery is at the time known to medical science may have euthanasia ['good death'] administered."

Such a plan as this one put forward in New York state is much the same as the one that was sponsored by the Nazis in Germany a short time ago. There was a revulsion over the reports that Hitler was sending insane Germans to their death in gas chambers. We find that not only have the plans for mercy killings been propagated in New York, but also in Illinois where, in May, 1931, a group of doctors urged before the state Assembly of Illinois "the administration of a painless death sleep to imbeciles and sufferers from incurable diseases."

It is not man's right to take his or anybody else's life. God, who is our Maker, has dominion over us. God has explicitly commanded in the sixth commandment of the law that "thou shalt not kill." Exodus 20: 13. Jesus plainly stated when He was here on earth that "ye have heard that it was said by them of old time, Thou shalt not kill; and whosoever shall kill shall be in danger of the judgment." Matthew 5: 21.

Look Out, You'll Burn Yourself!

(Continued from page 15)

of "blood poisoning." Later on, surgical repair is almost certain to be necessary. Proper care of the patient from the first will save much time and possible deformity. We must remember that where there are scars (and always such burns leave deep scars), there is a shrinkage of the scar; and this may bind down the muscles so that the part may become nearly useless by scar contractions. This is one of the things that the surgeon constantly seeks to avoid.

Where much skin has been destroyed, it can now be largely replaced by "grafting" skin from other portions of the body or from other people. This is very important in the prevention of deformities. It is frequently slow treatment, for the rebuilding of the body takes a long time and often many different operations will be necessary to restore movement to the greatest extent possible and to prevent un-

sightly distortions. Damage about the face can be repaired to an astonishing degree by modern "plastic" surgery.

Burns are always serious. The best possible treatment will not restore a person completely after a serious burn. Hence everything possible should be done for him. And as many burns are due to carelessness, or lack of attention to easily removed dangers, a proper survey should be made in every home and all unneeded combustible materials should be removed. Fire fighting means should always be at hand, for nowhere is prevention of greater necessity.

GOVERNMENT CENSUS OF RELIGIOUS BODIES

The Director of the Census is authorized by Congress to take a Census of the Religious Bodies in the United States every 10 years, the first census in this decennial series having been taken in 1906. The information is collected through the use of a simple schedule or questionnaire, which is mailed to the individual churches, filled out by the pastor or clerk, and returned to the Census Bureau for tabulation. This census provides the only official government figures with respect to membership in the various religious denominations or organizations.

Preparations are now being made for the 1946 Census and the schedules will be mailed to the churches early in 1947. This is a most important inquiry and for its success it is vital that the Bureau of the Census have the utmost co-operation from the pastors or clerks of the churches, as well as from all religious leaders and officials. The schedule for this census includes a question on the number of members of each local church, with a supplementary question on the number under 13 years of age. The second question on membership will facilitate comparison among denominations having different provisions for inclusion of young children as church members. There are also questions on church expenditures, Sunday Schools, etc.

If the statistics of religious organizations are to be of maximum value, it is essential that the returns be accurate and complete and cover, as nearly as possible, every church or religious organization in the United States. The census can be completed promptly only if each pastor will participate wholeheartedly in the work by filling out the schedule for his church and returning it promptly to the Bureau of the Census. It is a tremendous task to obtain returns from the more than 250,000 churches scattered throughout the United States, but it can be done and it is hoped that the church leaders will realize the importance of the census and will do everything in their power to help the Census Bureau secure prompt reports from all the churches.

Men Love War!

(Continued from page 5)

seed of war and death, when they learn that love, co-operation, helpfulness, service, is the seed of peace and life, then will the oncoming generations love peace and hate war, then will the nations beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruninghooks, neither shall they learn war any more. But that heaven will not come in the present state of the world, nor as the result of any league of nations. It can come only through conversion of men to the ways of God.

There is a Prince of Peace. He is coming, and coming soon. And they who now love peace in their inmost hearts, peace not only for themselves but for all men, they who give peace wherever they go, because they claim no land or gold or slaves, but instead minister to the needs of their fellow men, these shall make up His kingdom of peace. "I saw in the night visions, and, behold, one like the Son of man came with the clouds of heaven, and came to the Ancient of days, and they brought Him near before Him. And there was given Him dominion, and glory, and a kingdom, that all people, nations, and languages, should serve Him: His dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and His kingdom that which shall not be destroyed." Daniel 7: 13, 14.

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Do We Treat God That Way?

(Continued from page 20)

was strong; but by God's grace I replied quietly:

"Harriet, I think when you go to the crafthouse this afternoon you will find that the promise I have repeatedly made you is true, and you will be able to finish your tray."

That afternoon, as I handed her her tray, I said: "See, Harriet! Today is the first day you have needed to use the holes, and they are there just as I promised."

Without a word of thanks or a change of her sober face, she took the tray and went to work. A pang of disappointment at her lack of appreciation shot through me.

But that night as I meditated, I thought: What a perfect picture of how I have often treated the Lord! He has given me a wealth of repeated promises. But I don't believe them and fret over anticipated troubles, and refuse to do today's work because I fear that my needs won't be supplied tomorrow. And when He has given me the blessings my unbelief did not deserve, I have forgotten to thank Him. And too often I have been whining and despondent, and dishonored Him before others. What heartache my unbelief must have cost His tender love! And how unfailing and patient have been His forgiveness and His never-ceasing faithfulness! Never a need has gone unsupplied.

And I understood better than I ever had before in my life the Saviour's words: "Therefore I say unto you, What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them"—not that instant, for I may not need them then; but when I do need them, they will be there for my use.

"For the pardon of sin, for the Holy Spirit, for a Christlike temper, for wisdom and strength to do His work, for any gift He has promised, we may ask; then we are to believe that we receive, and return thanks to God that we have received. We need look for no outward evidence of the blessing. The gift is in the promise, and we may go about our work assured that what God has promised He is able to perform, and that the gift, which we already possess, will be realized when we need it most."—E. G. White, *Education*, p. 258.

Rome in the Bible Mirror

(Continued from page 11)

required. Catholic historians openly admit it, as witness:

"She [the Catholic Church] creates tribunals like those of the Inquisition, she

calls the law of State to her aid, if necessary she encourages a crusade, or a religious war, and all her 'horror of blood' practically culminates into urging the secular power to shed it, which proceeding is almost more odious—for it is less frank—than shedding it herself."—Professor Alfred Baudrillart, *"The Catholic Church, the Renaissance, and Protestantism,"* pp. 182, 183. This is but a fragment in the abundant testimony indicting the papacy on this count.

Count seven: "He shall . . . think to change times and laws." Another translation of this reads, "the law," that is, the law of God, for the laws of man are often changed with impunity, and there would be no point in calling attention to revisions of human laws. Calendar changes have been made by the popes; and such changes of times as the dates for Christmas, Easter, New Year, and other festivals, came in during the reign of the papacy; also the beginning of the day at midnight. But the most arrogant and vital time change was made in connection with a change in the law of God, which the papacy has thought to make, and with which nearly all Christendom agrees.

Following a minor tampering by leaving out the second commandment altogether and dividing the tenth to make up for its loss, the bold and God-defying papal power has laid its desecrating hands on the Sabbath command, and changed the day of it from the seventh to the first day of the week. Let the boast of this highhanded procedure tell the damning truth. From the Catholic, *"A Doctrinal Catechism,"* let all read:

"Ques.—Have you any other way of proving that the church has power to institute festivals of precept?

"Ans.—Had she not such power, she could not have done that in which all modern religionists agree with her,—she could not have substituted the observance of Sunday the first day of the week, for the observance of Saturday the seventh day, a change for which there is no Scriptural authority."—Page 174.

In other words, she gives as the proof of her right to place tradition and the church above the authority of God, the fact that "all modern religionists" agree and obey. But not all do, and manifestly, from the prophecy, God strongly disapproves.

When our observation of the methods of the papacy of the present day leads us to believe that she does such things, when history says she has done them, and when she herself admits and boasts of doing them, what are we to do but agree with her that she is symbolized by the "little horn" of Daniel's prophecy?



Address your questions to Editor, Our Times
Box 59, Nashville 2, Tennessee

Does the Lord accept death-bed repentance?—L.W.

If the individual is repentant and earnestly desires forgiveness, it seems from the teaching of the Bible that God will accept him. Jesus forgave the thief on the cross. He also stated that, "him that cometh to Me I will in no wise cast out." John 6: 37. Of course this matter brings up many questions that space will not permit us to answer. It should be stated, however, that it is wrong for a person to defiantly put off the surrender of his heart to Christ until he is ready for the grave. This is both presumptuous and dangerous.

Do you believe that the book of Revelation is a closed book, not to be understood?—R.A.B.

The introduction to this book found in the first three verses of chapter one plainly reveals that it is to be understood: "The Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave unto Him, to show unto His servants things which must shortly come to pass; and He sent and signified it by His angel unto His servant John. . . . Blessed is he that readeth, and they that hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written therein: for the time is at hand." Revelation 1: 1, 3. The very word "Revelation" means "that which is revealed."

Does the Bible say that man is of a lower order than the angels?—B.T.

Yes it does. "What is man, that thou art mindful of him? . . . Thou hast made him a little lower than the angels." Psalm 8: 4, 5. In Hebrews 2: 7 the same truth is stated as follows: "Thou madest him a little lower than the angels."

Please give me the reference for "Cleanliness is next to godliness."—S.D.

It is not in the Bible but in the essay, "Advancement of Learning," by Francis Bacon, who lived A. D. 1561-1626.

Do We Treat God That Way?

TO FAITH, PROMISES ARE FACTS

THE crafthouse at junior camp was filled with a merry hum as teachers led groups in interesting handwork. Several older girls were tracing designs on plywood trays. Suddenly Harriet raised her voice: "Miss Moore! There are no holes in my tray."

Sure enough! The holes which should have been drilled around the edge of the plywood, through which raffia and rope brim and handles were to be sewed, were missing from one end and one side of Harriet's tray. But the teacher knew that Harriet would not be ready to use the holes for several days and answered:

"I see there are no holes there now. But they will be there before you need them."

Harriet seemed relieved and went ahead on her design.



But later as I passed her she asked:

"Miss Moore, how can I make this tray if there aren't any holes in it?"

"I told you, Harriet, that the holes will be made in the tray before you need them. Right now you have something else to do that does not require the holes. They will be ready for you in time."

Harriet returned to her work. But later I found her sitting idle. She complained of the lack of holes and again I explained that they would be ready for her use when she needed them.

Half an hour later as I was on the porch with the little girls, a teacher came from inside.

"Miss Moore," she said, "we have a girl in here who won't go on with her design because she says there are no holes in the edge of her tray."

Deeply moved by her unbelief, I replied: "I know her tray has no holes; but I have told her repeatedly

that the holes will be made before she needs to use them. She will not need them for several days yet. At present she should work on her design." Then I added desperately: "I have told her that over and over. But she refuses to believe me. If you know any way to persuade her to believe me, I will be grateful."

I heard no further complaint from Harriet that day or the next. But on Wednesday I found her tray laid aside with the painting unfinished, and asked her why.

"I can't go on with it because there are no holes in the edge."

"Harriet," I said earnestly, "you do not need the holes while you are decorating the bottom of the tray. They will be made for you before you are ready to use them. You have been told that over and over. Won't you believe it?"

Without a word Harriet took the tray and went to work on the design; but there was no confidence or joy in her face or manner.

That night while the other campers were at the evening story hour, I sat in the crafthouse busily drilling holes along the edge of Harriet's tray and happily anticipating her pleasure when she found them the next afternoon.

The next forenoon, at camp council, as I was briefly



explaining about some different craft work for the afternoon, suddenly Harriet spoke out loudly: "Miss Moore, I can't make my tray because there aren't any holes in the edge."

For a moment I felt sick with anger. Was she never going to believe me? She had had to be fairly forced to do the work she must have finished before she was ready to use the holes, because she was anticipating trouble. And the trouble would never come; for while she had been doubting me, I had been making the holes, so they would be ready when she needed them. Of course, she did not know that; but she might have believed my repeated promises. But instead, here she was dishonoring me before the whole camp. My impulse to utter a bitter rebuke (Continued on page 19)