

T WAS NECESSARY for a little boy to spend a term in a boarding school some distance away from his parents. On his arrival he was filled with terror of the pedagogue in charge of his ward. He was so cold and unapproachable, and his voice, when he spoke to his small charges was stern and implacable.

One day this monitor approached him and announced in his hard, pitiless way that the head master had sent for him. Trembling in every limb, the poor little chap passed down the corridor, descended to the first floor, and rapped fearfully at the door with the gold lettering, *Head Master*, upon it.

"Come in," responded a gentle voice. The little lad turned the knob, wonderingly, and found himself face to face with the great man in whom was all but the power of life and death. Remember-



H. A. ROBERTS

When great fear strikes the heart, there is one sure source of comfort and peace, and that is found in an omnipotent God.

ing this, the boy swallowed hard and looked into the kind eyes with fearful awe that soon became unswerving devotion. The lad lost his abject terror, and his awkward blundering was no more. He applied himself to his books, distinguished himself in the workshop, and wrote home in glowing terms of the wonderful head master.

This is the godly fear, the veneration with which we contemplate our God— He who is all-powerful, all-wonderful, all-kind, as well as just. This is the compound of reverential awe that is constructive, bringing out in us all the best of which we are capable, and binding us to the Head Master with silken bands of love and loyalty.

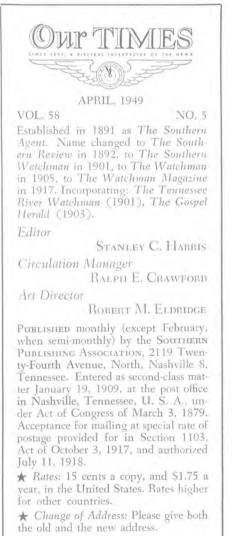
"Noah, . . , moved with fear, prepared an ark to the saving of his house." Noah had a long experience

with that kind of fear and, as always, it was a saving, constructive force. He had, too, every opportunity to observe the fear that is unrestrained terror. If the world to whom he had given his warning message had but partaken of his godly fear they would not have experienced the panic-stricken horror that engulfed them when their accustomed duties and pleasures and scoffings at Noah were interrupted by the strange phenomenon of rain, which they had never before known.

Thinking men of today are experiencing the clutching dread of what may come upon the earth. Man has caught up with his Head Master in one respect: he has learned how to blow himself off the face of the earth in utter destruction. Therefore it is no longer inconceivable that God may once more demolish His world because of its wanton cruelty and wickedness. "The earth is the Lord's." It does not belong to the "high minded" who have filled it with violence.

Will man go one step further, just one constructive step from fear to reverential awe? No one can study the Scriptures without discerning the character of God —His patience, His love, His warnings to the wicked of coming destruction. Even the little lad knew that he must be good and obedient or he would be back in the power of the hardhearted monitor and the throes of fear.

"What time I am afraid, I will trust in Thee." Psalm 56:3. "But they shall sit every man under his vine and under his fig tree; and none shall make them afraid: for the mouth of the Lord of hosts hath spoken it." Micah 4:4. It is ever a mystery to the ungodly that true Christians have no fear of the future, but live in perfect peace.



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FRONT COVER-U.S.D.A. PHOTO BY KNELL

W ITHIN a single week quite recently two notable first editions of the Scriptures changed hands, one in New York and the other in London.

The former was a copy of the so-called Bay Psalm Book, a metrical paraphrase of the Psalms, which was the first book printed in the Anglo-American Colonies in 1640.

The other was Volume I of the first issue of the first edition of the famous Gutenberg Bible, the earliest book ever to be printed with movable metal type, and produced on the press of Johann Gutenberg and Johann Faust of Mainz, Germany, about 1455.

As far as price was concerned, the Bay Psalm Book probably reached a world record for a printed book, being sold for \$151,000, while the 340-leaf Gutenberg volume, in brown calf over wooden boards with five metal bosses on each cover, reached only £22,000.

The latter, however, is actually the rarer of the two, for while there are eleven known copies of the Bay Psalm Book, only nine copies of fifteenth-century editions of the Gutenberg Bible are in existence, and there are only three copies of the first issue bound in Mainz.

Historically, too, the Gutenberg Bible is incomparably the more valuable, for it marks a most important epoch in the giving of the Word of God to the world.

Prior to the fifteenth century, every book, whether secular or sacred, had to be laboriously copied by hand, so that a volume the size of the Bible would take one person not less than eight or ten months to prepare.

Obviously, therefore, only the monastic libraries and the homes of the wealthiest of the nobility could afford manuscript copies of the Bible.

As a consequence, the Scriptures were almost the exclusive possession of the priesthood, and the common people received only such portions of the Word as the Roman Church deemed fit, and even then with emendations and perversions suited to its apostate purpose.

No wonder that Luther triumphantly proclaimed printing to be the "latest and greatest gift" for the advancement of God's cause! For the printing press made possible for the first time the speedy and cheap production of the Sacred Scriptures, as well as eliminating the possibility of mistakes in the text so common in hand-produced copies.

It is true that Gutenberg's Bible was still in Latin, the tongue of the learned, and that it followed the poor Vulgate text of the Roman Church. But the important thing was that Gutenberg had

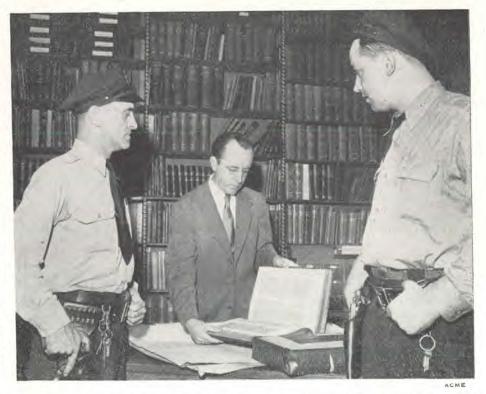
Notable Bibles Change Hands

Large Sums of Money Paid for Valuable Books

By W. L. Emmerson

shown the way to the speedy multiplication of the Word, and it was not long before the Protestant reformers seized upon the new invention to produce printed translations in the language of the common people, and from manuscripts in the original Greek and Hebrew rather than from the corrupt Latin text. pioneered the way for the complete printed English Bible.

Only when the Roman Church realized that she could not control the presses and stop the stream of printed vernacular Bibles being distributed in every country of Europe did she begin producing vernacular Bibles herself,



This valuable Gutenberg Bible, one of the first ever printed, is carefully wrapped and guarded as protection against any damage in transit.

In Germany the first printed vernacular Bible came off a Strasbourg press in 1466, about eleven years after Gutenberg's Latin Bible, and in 1521 Luther's translation from the original tongues established the great Reformation movement that quickly spread over the European continent.

In England Tyndale's printed English New Testament, actually produced in Germany, was issued in 1525, and it based on the Catholic Vulgate text.

Probably most of those present at Sotherby's recent sale in London were interested in the Gutenberg Bible only as a rare book of high market value. To the Bible lover, however, the precious volume revives memories of a great milestone in the proclamation of the gospel of the grace of God. For since the day when the pages of that Bible came wet

(Continued on page 13)

The AGE of ADVANCE



Unusual Progress Made In One Generation

By C. S. Longacre



EWING GALLOWAY

FOR NEARLY six thousand years the inhabitants on this earth made very little progress in human advancement and material comforts in life. They lived much as did the inhabitants of ancient Assyria, Babylon, Persia, Greece, and the iron monarchy of Rome. Within my own generation, my grandfather plowed his fields and hauled his hay and grain into the barn with oxen, just as did the children of Noah after they emerged from the ark after the great Flood.

When I was a mere lad working on the farm of my father, we milked our cows by hand, we mowed our meadows with the scythe, we cut our grain with the sickle and the cradle, we did our morning and evening chores by the light of a lantern, Our day laborers worked for room, board, and a wage of \$15 a month. As a boy, I put the wicks into the candle frames and poured the hot tallow into the frames, and gathered the hardened candles into piles to be used for light during the evening meal, for evening reading and entertainment. Tallow candles illuminated our Christmas trees in the homes and in the churches.

We cut the wool from the backs of our sheep, washed the wool in the creek, and grandma and mother wove it into cloth out of which they made all the garments that we wore in the winter weather—all wool coat, vest, pants, socks, pulse warmers, and gloves. All our garments were handmade and homemade. As a boy, I wore homemade boots that reached to the knees, which were pulled on by the side straps and off by a bootjack.

The beds on which we slept were homemade frames of wood, springs of ropes, and the mattresses were homemade linen ticks filled with cut straw and covered with feather quilts. The fastest mode of travel from farm to city was on horseback, or with horse and buggy.

My childhood days on the farm were much as the childhood days of Noah's children. The human race had made very little progress to improve human comforts and conveniences. Only a few inventions to facilitate human efforts and travel had been designed in crude forms. There were no coal-oil lamps, no gas lights, no electric lights, no telephones, no radios, no television, no streetcars, except those drawn by horses, no automobiles, no airplanes, no sewerage systems in our cities. The only mode of keeping warm in the winter in our home was a big kitchen wood stove in the living room and kitchen combined.

How is it that the inhabitants for six thousand years lived upon this earth without making much apparent human

COURTESY OF CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY

progress, eking out a bare existence with meager facilities and few inventions? Now, within a single generation, in my own lifetime, we move out of the floorless log cabin into mansions with polished oak floors, tapestry rugs, stuffed chairs, extension tables, electric refrigerators and other appliances. We have tile bathrooms with porcelain bathtubs and toilet fixtures, running hot and cold water, and oil furnaces with automatic thermostats and electric clocks, requiring the landlord to do nothing in heating his house but to write out the check for the oilman, who fills his oil tank at stated intervals without notice.

Why did men and women and children toil from dawn to dark, with bare feet in summer, homemade boots in winter, ragged, half naked, unshaved, with cracked and chapped hands, scaly skin, and decayed teeth for nearly six thousand years, half of the human race dving off prematurely in the prime of life without adequate medical aid, and then suddenly, in a single generation, in America, the people awaken to a new day of unexcelled progress? Why did they so abruptly have wondrous inventions, increase of knowledge, unrivaled activity, discovery, advancement in education, and come into possession of an abundance of life's luxuries and comforts, such as silk dresses, rayon under-

"Jesus Is Lovely, Isn't He?"

"LOOK at this man's funny nose. Why does this bird stand on one leg?" So says five-year-old Leon as we page through his picture book. He does not notice the man's clothes, only his nose. He does not seem to see the house and the children playing on the lawn, only the stork perched on one leg in a corner of the garden.

When Leon draws pictures, he practices the same principle of picking out one particular object. He makes a man's fingers almost as large as the legs. With two immensely big ears, the man that he draws looks like a triple-headed being.

Adults also tend to think of each person in terms of one characteristic. They speak about treacherous Judas, impetuous Peter and fainthearted Jonah. They remember Paul for his zeal and John for his love. Seldom do they think of the other qualities that marked these well-known personalities.

True, people manifest certain extremes of character. Some individuals are coldly rational while others are overly emotional. Millions are atheists, thousands are indifferent, a few are fanatics, but one has a hard time to find a well-balanced personality.

We try to be liberal, and soon worldly habits flood in on us and carry us away. Then we decide to be strict, and before long our friends recoil from us because of our pharisaical legalism. After many years of purposeless living, we allow our ambitions to catch fire, selfishly exploiting others so that we may reach our goals. We measure ourselves by our companions, and are either elated or depressed as a result.

By Johan Newman



There is one Personality in whom all qualities blend so harmoniously that the thought of one characteristic suggests another. It is impossible to think on the love

of Jesus and regard it as superior to His justice. You cannot speak about His power without being reminded of His gentleness at the same time.

The life of the Saviour was completely balanced. He was fervent but not fanatical, strict but not severe cr harsh, liberal but not lax, dignified and yet humble. He was all-absorbed in His devotion to His Father, but still He mingled freely with the people and worked untiringly for the suffering multitudes around Him. He was poor, hungry, weary. He was insulted by his enemies and forsaken by His friends, but He never complained or became disheartened.

Quietly, unassumingly our Master lived and labored, in favor with God and man. Every act of benevolence, every smile of sympathy, every cross, every care, added one more stroke of the brush toward the perfection of the divine Masterpiece. In Him all the attributes blend like the beauty of a heavenly sunset. Life is but a "broken arc," with much of

injustice, pride, immorality, and intoler-ance around us. Only as we gaze at the portrait of Jesus and see truth, love, and beauty personified do we gain hope and confidence: By beholding we are changed into His glorious image,

My little friend has come to the last picture in his book. Gazing affectionately at Hoffman's painting of Christ, he looks up at me as if he would like to see what I am thinking. With a touch of emotion, he re-marks, "Jesus is lovely, isn't He?" If am glad he does not notice the beard or the uncommon garment.

'Yes, Jesus is wonderful," I reply.

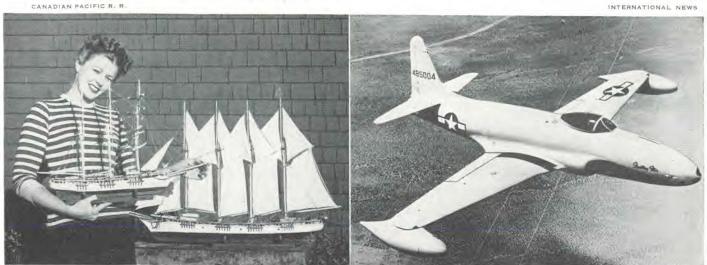
wear, nylon hose, electric lights, airplanes, telephones, radios, television, automobiles, trailers, shower baths, electric razors, permanent waves, ice-cream sodas, cash-and-carry stores, self-help groceries, and a thousand and one con-

veniences our ancestors never dreamed of? Why all this progress, this increase of knowledge, this marvelous running to and fro throughout the earth and around the earth, within a single generation-in my own lifetime?

Why have Americans within our generation changed their ancient habits, advancing from burning pine knots and tallow candles to kerosene lamps, to gas jets, to electric bulbs, to neon lights, and (Continued on page 16)

The great increase of knowledge and speed of travel prophesied in the Bible is evident in this comparison of means of transportation.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS



OUR TIMES, APRIL, 1949

The POWER of PRAYER

It Moves the Arm of Omnipotence

By Taylor G. Bunch

HE TRUTHFULNESS of the statement that "prayer is the power that moves the arm that moves the world" was graphically demonstrated during the experiences of Captain Eddie Rickenbacker and his seven companions while drifting for three weeks on rubber rafts in the equatorial Pacific before being rescued. Each day the survivors of the Flying Fortress, which crashed into the sea after running out of fuel, read from the New Testament that one of the men had slipped into his pocket. Then they prayed for water, food, and rescue-all of which were forthcoming in a manner that left no doubt in the minds of any that there is a God in heaven who hears and answers the earnest petitions of those who recognize and call upon Him.

In answer to prayer a series of miracles took place that turned an avowed skeptic into a professed Christian, with the intention of becoming a minister of the gospel. The conviction of the reality of the Christian religion was greatly strengthened in the others, and the relating of the story has increased the faith of millions. The same God who furnished "a table in the wilderness" and brought forth refreshing streams out of the desert rocks to provide for His people in days of old, as they journeyed through the desert wastes, furnished a table in the trackless sea and sent down showers of rain from heaven to quench their thirst and guided them to final safety in answer to the prayer of faith.

The experiences of these rescued men remind us of the statement of the psalmist: "Hungry and thirsty, their soul fainted in them. Then they cried unto the Lord in their trouble, and He delivered them out of their distresses. . . . He sent His word, and healed them, and delivered them from their destructions. . . . They that go down to the sea in ships, that do business in great waters; these see the works of the Lord, and His wonders in the deep. For He commandeth, and raiseth the stormy wind, which lifteth up the waves thereof. They mount up to the heaven, they go down again to the depths: their soul is melted because of trouble. They reel to and fro, and stagger like a drunken man, and are at their wit's end. Then they cry unto the Lord in their trouble, and He bringeth them out of their distresses. He maketh the storm a calm, so that the waves thereof are still. Then are they glad because they be quiet; so He bringeth them unto their desired haven. Oh that men would praise the Lord for His goodness, and for His wonderful works to the children of men!" Psalm 107:5, 6, 20, 23-31.

"Stephen, is God dead?" cried out Sojourner Truth to a Negro leader who shared the discouragement and confusion of his people because of the news of the assassination of their emancipator, Abraham Lincoln. The question was answered by a great calm.

No, God is not dead. He is the everliving God, the great I AM of all eternity. He is the Eternal, the One who was, is, and ever will be. He is the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, "the same yesterday, and today, and forever." Hebrews 13:8. He never changes, and therefore He still is a prayer-hearing and prayer-answering God.

God heard the prayers of Eddie Rickenbacker and the men with him as they floated helplessly on the sea, and He aided them to escape a horrible death.



Prayer is indeed a mighty power. Someone has said that "prayer can do anything God can do," and God can do the impossible. Nothing is too hard for Him. Another has truthfully said that prayer can "change, wonderfully change, the most hopeless, discouraging outlook." This was illustrated in the experiences of the crew of the sea-crashed bomber. It has been demonstrated in the lives of millions throughout the history of the world.

In answer to the prayers of the disciples came Pentecostal power accompanied by mighty miracles. The power came "as of a rushing mighty wind." Acts 2:2. We are told that on a later occasion "when they had prayed, the place was shaken where they were assembled together." Acts 4:31. The prayers of Paul and Silas in the Philippian jail brought "a great earthquake" that opened the prison doors and released their feet from the stocks. (Acts 16:25, 26.) Wind and earthquake are the two greatest powers of nature. Fervent and sincere prayer has cyclonic and earthquake power. It moves and shakes and changes things touched by its influence.

Prayer is one of the chiefest of the spiritual weapons that "are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strongholds; casting down imaginations, and every high thing that exalteth itself against the knowledge of God, and bringeth into captivity every thought to the obedience of Christ." 2 Corinthians 10:4, 5. The prayers of the apostles not only shook the place where they prayed and the prison where they were confined, but they also shook kingdoms. Pagan bulwarks and spiritual strongholds crumbled before their prevailing prayers. No barriers could stand before the triumphant march of the soldiers of the cross as they went forth "conquering and to conquer." "The gates of hell" could not prevail against them.

Most of the wonderful answers to prayer recorded in the Scriptures came as the result of the supplications of one or two godly men or women. Some of these prayers changed the course of human history. Israel was more than once saved by the prayers of a single man of faith. Joseph prayed, and God delivered him from the Egyptian dungeon and made him governor of the empire, thus saving both the Egyptians and his own people from the ravages of famine. (Genesis 39-47.) Because of the earnest pravers of Moses God delivered the Israelites from bondage and made them a great nation. His prayers saved them

(Continued on page 18)



O YOU LONG to have Jesus in your life? Do you *want* to know Him?

First of all, then, talk to Him. When you are alone, talk to Him as to a friend; talk to Him as intimately as talking to yourself. Tell Him about yourself. Tell Jesus that you need Him. Be sorry for your sins, and tell Him so; if you are sorry for your sins, and forsake them, He is faithful and just to forgive you and to cleanse you from all unrighteousness. (1 John 1:9.) Tell Him you want to be like Him; tell Him you want to live the Christian life.

Then, take your Bible and let Jesus talk to you. There is where He tells you what He wants to do for you, and what you can do in order for Him to help you. There He tells you the kind of thoughts and the kind of acts which will give you a clean heart, "His mind," and a right spirit. There He "hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him: . . . that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature." 2 Peter 1:3, 4.

Let this wisdom from above fill you so that there can be no room for sin. "Receive . . . the law from His mouth, and lay up His words in thine heart." Job 22:22. For it is "that form of doctrine" which, when obeyed from the heart, makes you free from sin. Implant it in your heart; it is the Seed that bears the fruits of righteousness. Daily partake of it more than of your necessary food; it is the Bread of Life and the Fountain of Living Waters that will enable you to grow in grace.

Meeting Your Friend

How to Meet Christ

By Harvey Hansen

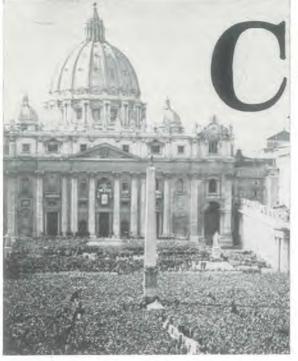
Give Jesus all your sins, every one, and He will cast them behind His back as far as the east is from the west. He will cover them as a thick cloud and blot them out with His precious blood. *Give Him all* the "filthy rags," and He will clothe you with robes of righteousness. "Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw nigh to God, and He will draw nigh to you." James 4:7, 8.

Jesus can be your strength in time of trouble. He knows the feeling of our infirmities; He can comfort you. He was tempted in all points like as we are; He can show the way of escape from temptation. Cleave to Him with purpose of heart. He is the Friend that sticketh closer than a brother. Anytime, anywhere, seek Him with all your heart and He will not fail you.

He says, "All that the Father giveth Me shall come to Me; and him that cometh to Me I will in no wise cast out." John 6:37.

The Father is calling you. You know so, because you feel you need Jesus. And "this same Jesus" who loves you, "who gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from all iniquity" (Titus 2:14), and who overcame by prayer and by His Word (which was written that we too might overcome and be granted to sit with Him in the Father's throne), is saying to you, "Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear My voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with Me." Rev. 3:20.

"Wherefore (as the Holy Ghost saith, Today if ye will hear His voice, Harden not your hearts)." Hebrews 3:7, 8.



T HE SEVENTH chapter of Daniel presents a unique picture of a lion, a bear, a leopard, and a grotesque, nameless beast. In our last article it was explained that these fierce animals were used as symbols to represent the four great universal empires of Babylon, Medo-Persia, Greece, and Rome.

The frightful appearance and ferocity of the fourth beast was so alarming, however, that the prophet Daniel sought for a clearer explanation. In response the angel interpreter stated: "The fourth beast shall be the fourth kingdom upon earth, which shall be diverse from all kingdoms, and shall devour the whole earth, and shall tread it down, and break it in pieces. And 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." Daniel 7:23, 24.

After continuing for more than six centuries, the Roman Empire tottered to its doom, this tragic downfall having been precisely foretold in prophecy. The ten horns of this beast were declared by the angel to represent ten kingdoms that would arise from the ruins of the decaying empire. (Verse 24.) In fulfillment, history narrates the onslaught of the barbarian tribes of Northern Europe as they overran the provinces of the enfeebled empire, destroyed the ancient government, and between the years A. D. 351 and 476 established themselves as the nations of Southern and Western Europe.

These ten horns represented ordinary

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Scripture Forecasts Fulfilled u

ingly branded as heretics, and were

civil governments, or kingdoms; but the "little horn" that arose after them was to be "diverse," or wholly different from the others. It would wage war against groups of people designated as "saints" (verse 21), therefore assuming the right to control the faith and consciences of men.

In the early centuries of our era, just such a religious organization began to flourish. In recounting the early days of the Papacy, a Roman Catholic writer says: "Long ago, when Rome through the neglect of the Western emperors was left to the mercy of the barbarous hordes, the Romans turned to one figure for aid and protection, and asked him to rule them; and thus in this simple manner, the best title of all to kingly right, commenced the temporal sovereignty of the popes. And meekly stepping to the throne of Cæsar, the vicar of Christ took up the scepter to which the emperors and kings

of Europe were to bow in reverence through so many ages."—American Catholic Quarterly Review, April, 1911.

The Roman Church declared that Christ had committed the keys of the kingdom to Saint Peter, and that the popes were his legitimate successors, the true vicars of Christ on earth. In its rapid rise to power the Church, symbolized by the "little horn," uprooted three of the "ten kingdoms." These three-the Heruli, the Vandals, and the Ostrogoths-were Arian in belief, and would not bow to the priest-king on the Tiber. They were accordoverwhelmed by the papal armies sent against them. The divine forecast continues: "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." Verse 25.

In similar language the apostle Paul foretold the development of "the mystery of iniquity" (2 Thessalonians 2:7), and pointed to "that man of sin" (verse 3) "who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is

By Roy F. Cottrell

worshiped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God" (verse 4.)

The following quotations from authoritative Roman Catholic sources indicate how the Papacy has exalted itself to



Pope Pius XII steps down from his throne to attend special ceremonies of elevating prelates to Cardinals.

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fulfill these prophetic specifications, and "speak great words against the Most High":

"All names which in the Scriptures are applied to Christ, by virtue of which it is established that he is over the church, all the same names are applied to the Pope."-Bellarmine, On the Authority of Councils, books 2, chapter

17. "The Pope is the supreme judge of the law of the land. He is the vicegerent of Christ, who is not only a priest forever, but also King of kings and Lord of lords."-From the Civilta Cattolica quoted in Vatican Council, p. 220.

These terms are not merely relics of the Dark Ages; they express the unchanging claims of the Church of Rome. In an encyclical letter bearing the date of June 20, 1894, Pope Leo XIII repeated the assertion in the following striking statement:

"We hold upon this earth the place of God Almighty."-The Great Encyclical Letters of Leo XIII, p. 304.

He "shall wear out the saints of the Most High." We write in the spirit of "malice toward none," and "charity for all." Yet in a faithful exposition of prophecy, it is essential to present the true and unimpeached facts of history. Among many others, the Waldenses and Albigenses who would not vield to the decrees and teachings of Rome, were systematically and ruthlessly suppressed. Along the centuries numerous edicts were issued from the "Eternal City," of which the following from Pope Innocent III is an example:

"We give you a strict command that, by whatever means you can, you destroy all these heresies and expel from your diocese all who are polluted with them. . . . They may not appeal from your judgments, and if necessary, you may cause the princes and people to suppress them with the sword."-Edict of Pope Innocent III. See A Source Book for Medieval History, p. 210. "The church has persecuted," says

the Roman Catholic publication, The Western Watchman. "Protestants were

change times and laws." Like its Author, the law of God is unchangeable. Yet these words point to a religious dictatorship that would think, or endeavor, to revise it. Although the Roman Catholic versions of the Bible contain the law of God as it was originally given, the second commandment of the divine code, which forbids the manufacture and worship of graven images, is omitted from nearly all their authorized catechisms. In order to retain the original number of precepts, the tenth, which condemns covetousness, is divided into two.

The fourth commandment declares that "the seventh day is the Sabbath of the Lord thy God," and bids all mankind to remember and reverence it. Yet the Papacy openly and unhesitatingly claims that the church has power to alter or amend the law from heaven, and accepts sole responsibility for substituting "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." -A Doctrinal Catechism, p. 174 (1851).

Said Eusebius, the celebrated bishop and historian of the fourth century: "All things whatsoever that it was duty to do on the Sabbath, these we have transferred to the Lord's day [Sunday]."-A Commentary on the Apocalypse, Vol. 2, p. 40.

"The Bible says: 'Remember that thou keep holy the Sabbath day,' but the Catholic Church says, 'No, keep the first day of the week,' and all the world bows down in reverent obedience to the mandates of the Catholic Church."-Father T. Enright, Redemptorist Fathers' College, Kansas City, Missouri.

In this way the Papacy proclaims itself to be the power that has thought to change the "times and laws" of God.

How long was this power to continue? "And they [the saints, times, and laws] shall be given into his hands until a time and times and the dividing of time." Daniel 7:25. Or as translated by Smith and Goodspeed, the text states, (Continued on page 18)



MOON ECLIPSES IN 1949-We can look forward to two moon eclipses in 1949. The first one will take place on April 12 and the second on October 6. These will be total eclipses.-(See Science News Letter, December 25, 1948.)

DREAMING AGAIN-"The United States, leading in the world weapon race, is now studying the possibility of creating a military outpost hanging like a tiny 'moon' far up in the skies. Disclosure of a fantastic 'earth satellite vehicle program' was tucked away in an annual report by Secretary of Defense Forrestal. One theory, completely unofficial, is that a man-made satellite platform might be established about nine-tenths of the distance to the moon, beyond the earth's gravity pull."-The Nashville Tennessean, December 30, 1948.

"RESISTANCE TO CANCER" -"A new principle by which resistance to cancer can be increased has been discovered by Dr. Leonell C. Strong of Yale University. The discovery so far relates only to resistance of mice against cancer induced by injections of a chemical, methylcholanthrene. But, Dr. Strong says, when the new principle is identified, it perhaps will clear up other phases of the cancer problem, such as prevention and spontaneous regression."-Science News Letter, December 25, 1948.

IDLE RICH-"More alcoholics are found among the prosperous than among the poor."-Alcoholics Anonymous, Inc.

A GOOD HABIT-"Every White House occupant from President Wilson to date has realized the importance of the daily habit of praver."-Huston Thompson, former Federal Trade Commissioner. THE THIRTY-FIVE publishers of the three hundred comic books that total 720,000,000 copies annually are proclaiming to this generation that they are living in the days that the Bible calls the "end of the world."

Christ told us nearly two thousand years ago what the people would be thinking of just before His return to this world as Judge. "But as the days of Noah were, so shall also the coming of the Son of man be." Matthew 24:37. If we can find out what men were thinking about in the days of Noah, we will be able to tell if our world has reached the days of Noah.

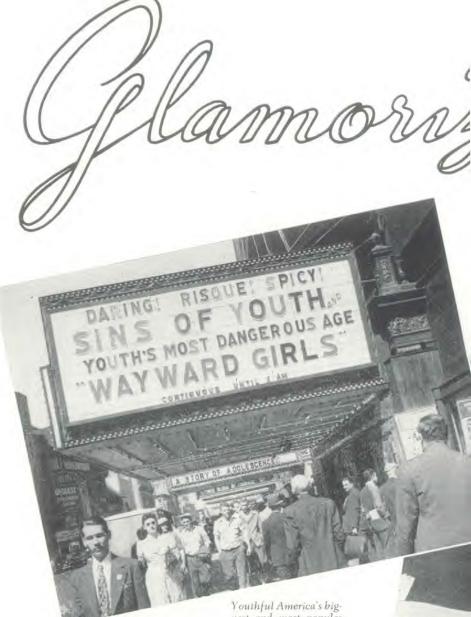
Genesis 6:5 states, "And God saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually."

Every month about 60,000,000 comic books are sold. Ninety-five per cent of all children between the ages of eight and eleven read comics, and 84 per cent between the ages of twelve and seventeen read them. According to Gershon Legman, a New York specialist "has found that, conservatively, the average city child reads from ten to a dozen comics a month, and that, on the average, there is at least one scene of violence to each page of pictures. This means that each month a child is subjected to 300 such scenes. A city child who was six years old in 1938, Legman thus figures, absorbed an absolute minimum of 18,000 pictorial beatings, shootings, stranglings, blood puddles, and torturings-to-death from comic books alone." -- Signs of the Times, June 15, 1948.

Surely, that kind of reading and entertainment will develop a generation whose "every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually." Genesis 6:5.

If the Bible is true, we shall reap a terrible harvest from such sowing in our children. Jeremiah stated, "Hear, O earth: behold, I will bring evil upon this people, even the fruit of their thoughts." Jeremiah 6:19. What is the harvest of the fruit of the thoughts of our children whose imagination has been fed on these twentieth-century comics? The wise man has told us: "For as he thinketh in his heart, so is he." Proverbs 23:7. We have the saying, "Sow a thought, reap an act."

The New York Times of February 15, 1948, testifies to the truthfulness of the Scriptures: "Children—persons between the ages of seven and fifteen—today commit 56 per cent of the nation's crimes." Is this the harvest of comics? Marya Manes tells how these comics are read and passed on and that the 60,000,000 each month are read by many. According to *Market Research*, each copy "may be read by anywhere from five readers to two hundred; these books are rarely thrown away; they are precrowded sections of New York City and saw a sign: 'Saturday Morning (which is the Saturday matinee for children) Comic Books Will Be Given Out Free to the First 500 Attending.' I looked to see what was playing in that movie that morning. There were two horror films:



served, loaned, 'swapped,' ad infinitum." Marya Manes in the New Republic, February 17, 1947, writing about comic books, says: "They are in fact, the greatest intellectual narcotic on the market."

Doctor Frederic Wertham, senior psychiatrist of New York City's Department of Hospitals, is convinced "that comic books represent systematic poisoning of the well of childhood spontaneity. Many children themselves feel guilty about reading them." The Doctor then tells the following personal experience:

"Recently I walked in one of the

Youthful America's biggest and most popular training school of crime is the modern theater, where ingenious plots and criminal methods are portrayed before young boys and girls.

Second to the movies in educating the youth to crime is the crime book. Here is 14-yearold Albert Jones, of Chico, California, reading a comic book in jail before facing charges of murdering a playmate by strangling and burning, and shooting a woman to death.



The Son of Frankenstein' and 'The Bride of Frankenstein.' The posters calling attention to the movies showed girls in various stages of being overpowered. The movie was called the Ritz. As I stood there I was reminded of the story of the little boy who was asked what he wanted to be when he grew up, and replied enthusiastically: 'I want to be a sex maniac!'"—Saturday Review of Literature, p. 27, May 29, 1948.

The Word of God has promised, "I will bring evil upon this people, even the fruit of their thoughts." Jeremiah 6:19.



Educating the Youth to Criminality

By G. S. Belleau



OUR TIMES, APRIL, 1949

"For as he thinketh in his heart, so is he." Proverbs 23:7. We are reaping the harvest of polluting the minds of our children. The comics, the radio crime drama, the movies—all have sown the seed to develop a generation whose "every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually." Genesis 6:5. Surely we are living in the days of Noah. I desire to give you a picture of the harvest that we are reaping.

"The General Federation of Women's Clubs took a formidable bull by the horns when it brought comic book publishers, representatives of the radio, television, and movie industries together with parents and educators in a discussion of censorship and codes for comics and entertainment programs. . . .

"Everything progressed on a calm and formal level until James Bennett, director of the United States Bureau of Prisons, came out with some pointed accusations against comic books, charging them with direct responsibility for acts of crime among the young."—*Christian Science Monitor*, Oct. 30, 1948.

"A 16-year-old Mississippi boy, tired of cotton picking, went to Little Rock, Ark. There, police say he boasted of committing from one to eight holdups. Proceeding to St. Louis, he robbed a restaurant, was pursued by one of the waiters, shot his pursuer, was caught finally by the police, who say he told them he was 'inspired' to become a holdup man by comic books and crime movies."—Ibid.

A magazine that has just come to my

desk states: "A few days ago the press reported that a psychiatrist was trying to find out why three little boys planned to hang and torture one of their playmates every third Sunday. They had strung up a seven-year-old friend and then burned his naked body with matches. The probation officer, after talking with the boys, said, 'comic book ideas' prompted the boys' action. Another boy, an 18-year-old slayer, was executed for killing a salesman. A few hours before his death he is quoted as saying, 'Guys like me go wrong because of the way we're brought up. I was guided in life by movies and other such things. I always figured the easiest way out was to try to outsmart the other guy. If I had been brought up by the right kind of parents and gone to church and known God, I would not have gone wrong.""

"A 13-year-old Chicago boy quarreled with his seven-year-old companion in the woods, stabbed him numerous times with a pocketknife, jumped on him, dropped a block of concrete on his face, covered the body of the still-living boy with leaves, and went back to town.

"At his trial his mother testified that she had no disciplinary control over the boy and sent him to the movies to get rid of him. Evidence was given on his constant visualization and reading of current 'funnies,' mystery books, murder and horror shorts, twenty-six in number being produced for the court's observation, all marked and showing the homicidal, near-homicidal, and brutal attacks upon the persons of the characters depicted by means of knives, guns, poison, arrows and darts, rocks off cliffs, etc.

"It was further brought out that only three weeks before the murder he saw and was greatly impressed by a film called 'Born to Kill,' depicting a character whose impulse to kill was 'irresistible."—*Christian Science Monitor*, Oct. 29, 1948.

The emotions of our children have been so played upon by comics, crime stories in books and radio and movies that the appeal of the Cross is failing to move many of our children.

The Bible understands child psychology. Paul has given us good, sound advice. If we follow it we will have the kind of boys and girls that will be a pride to father and mother. Here it is:

"Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, *think on these things.*" Philippians 4:8.

The News INTERPRETED

BY THE EDITOR

Standards Slipping

A SWELLING outcry for more sex education is heard from many quarters. Recently an article appeared in *Coronet* entitled, "Sex Education, Please," and another was published in *The Reader's Digest* entitled, "Must We Change Our Sex Standards?" Then there is the muchtalked-of *Kinsey Report* with its shocking facts.

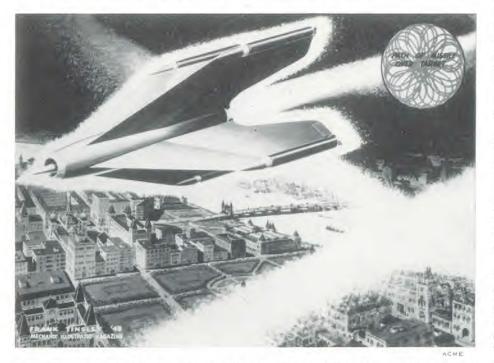
We wonder if the strong emphasis on sex education is going to solve the problem of perversion. It is actually reported on good authority that where sex knowledge is taught publicly there is an increase in sex exploitation. An outstanding American professor stated as much in *The Reader's Digest* symposium.

One writer in discussing sex education in the schools has said that "its entire emphasis has been on the physiological facts of sex almost to the complete neglect of its spiritual and moral values. The more people are taught about the physiology of sex, the more likely they are to exploit sex for purely selfish ends."

Sex education definitely belongs with the parents. It is a sacred and private subject and should be taught privately in the home, and from the Christian viewpoint. God, the creator of mankind, should be brought into such education; otherwise there is danger of lewdness and concupiscence resulting. Perhaps parents need to be educated to educate their children.

If the subject of sex is presented publicly in purely a physiological way, without the moral and biblical viewpoint, there is great danger. It has been known to shock the sensitiveness and timidity of some children when presented en masse. Very often when the sex education class is ended, there is snickering and joking among the departing pupils. From the book The Rediscovery of Morals, by Henry C. Link, the following excerpt was taken: "Recently a high school teacher asked her class in hygiene to vote on the subject they wished to discuss. The majority voted for a discussion on how to have intercourse without the risk of pregnancy. This incident stems from a fallacy which underlies all education: namely, that if people are taught the facts their conduct will be more intelligent."

It has been well said that "the subject of sex is aired entirely too much in the secular press; and all modern life advertising, the radio, literature, dress, the movies, comics and the theater—is geared too much for the exploitation of sex in illicit ways. Sex is sacred; and God intended it for reproduction and marital



Scientists are now studying the super flying bomb, a weapon designed to outrace radar, outdodge antiaircraft fire, and outdistance the atomic homb as a killer.

happiness. Its misuse and abuse is one of the worst sins of our age. The God who judged Sodom still lives, and He hasn't changed His mind any as to the loathsomeness and heinousness and reprehensibleness of sex sins."—*Christian Victory*, October, 1948.

The NEWS INTERPRETED



WILL WORDS save us from war? Evidently Raymond B. Fosdick, former president and trustee of the Rockefeller Foundation, thinks so. In his article in *The New York Times Magazine*, December 19, 1948, he declares: "We need words now-new words, adventurous words, a new imagination, a new kind of patience, a new faith, a new vocabulary."

Mr. Fosdick's article places great emphasis on the need of a new vocabulary in order that peace might be established. We hardly see how new words can help to avoid a war. Of course, if they are the Words 'of Life found in God's divine Book, then we can agree. But it seems that Mr. Fosdick is talking about a new vocabulary of newly concocted words an addition to our already-cumbersome vocabulary.

There is no light in the dictionaries that can save our world. The addition of new words certainly cannot keep us out of war. There is a Book, however, that does contain hope for our day. Men would do well to peruse the pages of this Volume. There is a way to peace found within its pages. It is not a book of the month. It is the Book of yestervear, today, and tomorrow. It is greater than any of the works of science, philosophy, or history that men spend so much time studying. It is the Bible. In it are the words dictated by God. He says, "If ve abide in Me, and My words abide in you, ye shall ask what ve will, and it shall be done unto you." John 15:7. What a marvelous offer! "If My words abide in you, ask what ye will."

When God's words abide, or dwell, within the hearts of the men of this world, then there will be a true basis for the establishment of peace. What is needed to save this world is not more dictionaries, but more Bibles. We have a "sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place." 2 Peter 1:19.



Of outstanding interest to the world was the birth of Princess Elizabeth's son.

Notable Bibles

(Continued from page 3) from the tiny hand press in Mainz, the printed Scriptures have gone forth in about 1,100 of the world's 1,400 languages. Soon they will have gone literally to "every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people." Revelation 14:6.



ROADS TO RUIN

NUMEROUS predictions have been brought forth in recent months regarding the way this world will end. Some have prophesied atomic obliteration, while others have stated that bacteriological warfare will do it. Then there are the spectacular scientists who are always trying to raise our hair with horrible predictions of huge meteors colliding with the earth in a catastrophic crash. Recently we were told that the icecap at the north pole is getting so heavy that it will someday tip the earth over, causing a superdestructive earthquake second to none,

Now we have a new book written by William Vogt, entitled Road to Survival, which presents another grim picture of things to come. In short, we are told that "by excessive breeding and abuse of the land mankind has backed itself into an ecological trap." In other words, the world's population increase, and the abuse of the land is leading us to a condition of extreme want and finally to utter starvation. The population of the world in the past one hundred years has more than doubled-from 1,000,000,000 to 2,200,000,000-according to Mr. Vogt. He tells us that "the handwriting on the wall of five continents now tells us that the Day of Judgment is at hand."

Much of what this writer says is very sensible reading. He says that the top soil of America is disappearing down the muddy rivers. One third of it is already gone. American forests have been exploited to a very dangerous degree. This is one reason for floods and the loss of top soil. The United States, however, is still able to feed itself and many more, at least for the present. But more and more the soil is producing less and less. At the same time the population is increasing at a rapid rate. All this results in shortages, hence higher prices-finally inflation. In the end, we are warned, our standard of living will be on a par with the coolies. Mr. Vogt tells us that the situation can be corrected if we start now. But as his story unfolds it appears that it will get much worse before it gets any better, if it ever does improve.

The hilly country of Latin America is in a far worse condition than the United States, says Mr. Vogt. Very little, if any conservation is being practiced there, and the top soil is rapidly washing and blowing away. "Unless there is a profound modification in its treatment of the land, the greater part of Mexico will be a desert within 100 years; Chile in perhaps fewer years."

The continent of Europe is experiencing a great population increase even though it has long since found itself unable to feed its peoples. There is only 0.88 acres of land per person, and most of this is of poor quality.

In Russia and Africa the story is the same. Vast population increases, poor conservation, resulting in a low standard of living for the majorities.

Reference is made to "The Japs Who Came to Dinner" when Admiral Perry pried open the gates to "let loose a Pandora's horde." While the population of this Island Empire remained at about twenty-six million for centuries, it has taken a leap in the past seventy-five years to about seventy-six million. She will continue to live on a starvation level inasmuch as there are five people to every arable acre. This great increase in population, as in other lands, is due to modern industrial methods and modern sanitation.

Then we come to Asia with its teeming millions and its rapidly increasing birth rate. There are nearly one-half billion stomachs to be filled every day in China. There is less than one-half acre of over-worked arable land per person. In India we have practically the same story. She has 400 million people and her population is increasing at the rate of 14,000 a day. Actually India is able to feed only 300 million people, and this would be on a deficient diet.

Mr. Vogt says: "Never before in history have so many hundreds of millions teetered at the edge of the precipice." He further states that unless remedial measures are taken "we may as well giveup all hopes of continuing civilized life. Like Gadarene swine, we shall rush down a war-torn slope to a barbarian existence in the blackened rubble."

All this sounds terrifying. But I do not believe the world will end in any of the ways described here. It may be that some of the conditions pictured by the scientists and economists will prevail in the end of the world, but the actual

(Continued on page 19)

HILE OTHER diseases, such as poliomyelitis, are much more spectacular than rheumatism in its acute form, few are so disastrous as the disease variously known as acute rheumatic fever, acute articular rheumatism, or acute arthritis.

Acute joint rheumatism may attack people at any age, but is much more frequent in early life—children from five years on and young adults. It may come on at any time of the year, but seems to be more frequent in the spring.

An attack may be preceded by indefinite symptoms, such as a feeling of fatigue, light fever, perhaps a cold and sore throat, or a "run down" feeling. But often it strikes suddenly, without any previous notice, and attacks one or more joints, generally the larger ones, such as the knees, shoulders, ankles, and wrists. The hips and the back are less frequently attacked, but no joint is immune. In many cases only one joint is at first involved, perhaps oftenest the knee as it is exposed to many injuries, which may be one "exciting" cause.

At first the joint is painful, often red, then it swells and becomes very tender to the touch. If several joints are involved at the same time, the patient will not move if possible to avoid doing so, and any necessary movement of the body is painful. This very acute and painful stage may last a week or ten days, then the symptoms usually slowly disappear. As a rule other joints, not at first attacked, commence to swell and become painful. Sometimes the first joint involved is again attacked and passes through the same cycle again before improvement becomes established.

The fever is more or less in proportion to the severity of the attack. Sometimes in childhood an attack is so mild that it may be overlooked, but complications may occur as though the disease had been severe. As the fever gradually lessens and the pain subsides, recovery follows slowly in many cases, and the joints return to about normal.

Recurrences do happen, but because there has been one attack it does not necessarily follow that there will be others. Nor does the chronic form of arthritis seem to have any particular association with this acute form.

As acute arthritis is usually associated with various forms of infections, such infections have been called the cause. But it may be difficult to say which of several germs found in such conditions is most likely to be the cause. So far it has not been possible to make any selection that seems entirely responsible. Hence the cause is still unknown.

RHEUMATISM

An Unspectacular but Very Painful and Troublesome Disease

By Colonel G. A. Skinner, M.D. Medical Corps, U. S. Army, Retired

As mentioned, this type of infection may involve any age, but is most serious in childhood. The great danger is not so much the attack on the joints, serious and painful as that often is, but is the too-frequent complication of heart attacks. This heart involvement may be light or severe. In severe attacks on the heart, life itself is in danger, and the death rate from these attacks is much

Proper treatment can help to relieve the suffering that results from rheumatism.

H. A. ROBERTS



OUR TIMES, APRIL, 1949

higher than we like to admit. But even that is not the most serious part of the complication. If the heart is attacked, it is usually the valves (the flaps that close the chambers of the heart after the blood passes through, so that it cannot return when the heart contracts) that suffer, and to a greater or lesser extent they then fail to fit the opening and so cause a leak. This condition makes it much more difficult for the heart to supply the blood to the body. The heart must increase its power to partly or completely compensate for this defect.

Treatment is a great help in the control of the pain, and sometimes seems rapidly to control the disease as well. So far nothing has proved effective in curing the disease. Rest in bed, with careful prevention of chilling, seems to be very necessary, not only for the comfort of the patient, but to give the body an opportunity to make its own cure and repairs.

With all patients, but with children in particular, great care during the recovery period is necessary to prevent damage to the heart. If the heart is damaged from the infection, it takes quite a long time for adults, and longer for children, to make the repairs, and the body does its best when nearly at rest. These things can be explained to adults, and they will usually carry out directions satisfactorily. As children apparently recover, however, and again feel well, activities begin, and getting proper rest is a much more difficult problem. Yet their whole future depends upon sufficient rest and care at this time. If they are allowed to get up and play, and return to school, it may be only a short time until they become invalids, and life will be greatly shortened. On the other hand, if they are kept quiet in bed, the repairs may be so complete that a relatively long life may be expected.

If the heart complications do occur, as they still do in a large number of cases (possibly up to a third of those sick), careful physical examination should be made from time to time until apparently the best repairs possible have been made. Then by careful observation it will be possible to judge about how much activity the individual can endure and still remain well. Sometimes activities must be restricted for a long time, but gradually the heart becomes stronger and a relatively normal life may follow. The person who has recovered from an attack where there has been heart damage should ever be mindful of possible heart strain by too much or too sudden and rapid activity. Speed is not well borne by a damaged heart.

Children so damaged should be carefully trained as to the activities they can tolerate safely as they grow older. Often the amount will increase, especially if the rest after the acute attack has been long enough for the heart to rebuild.

A serious form of articular rheumatism results when, after an acute attack of gonorrhea, the infection spreads to the joints. This form is more likely to attack only one joint, particularly the knee, but it is now much more readily controlled by penicillin and sulpha drugs than is the ordinary acute articular rheumatism. Such infection is possible even in children, though, of course, rare until adult life. The heart may also be attacked in this infection, and other serious complications are always possible.

The need for extreme care in convalescence from acute rheumatic attacks is apparent in the disasters which we all see or read about almost daily. Some comparatively young person will be stricken with a "heart attack" when apparently in perfect health, In many of these cases there was a forgotten acute rheumatic attack in childhood resulting in a damaged heart which had been overlooked in what appeared to be a perfect recovery. Then a sudden strain, and the heart was unable to carry the increased load and death followed. Sometimes the heart "stretches" (dilates) and keeps on working for a time, but usually invalidism results and death is only delayed.

Much of the danger of complications can be removed if care is used to give time for recovery. Here is one of the best examples where "make haste slowly" pays big dividends.



What would you suggest for a person who suffers with indigestion and heart burn?-R.D.

This person would seem to have excess of acid in the stomach. This acid may be normal hydrochloric acid, but more likely it is from fermentation.

First, I would start chewing my food twice as long as heretofore. For a few meals take dry, crisp, oven toast with a little cold butter on it (margarine if desired), and eat this slowly, without drinking anything at all until two or three slices have been eaten. Then take a glass of milk, either hot or cold, and sip it slowly. A cream soup may be used instead, if desired. Be very careful about combinations, especially avoiding vegetables and fruits at the same meal, particularly if the fruit is very tart and the vegetables are very coarse. Also avoid almost all rich custards, puddings, and, in fact, desserts in general. Eat only two or three things at any one meal, using vegetables at the main meal and fruits at supper, or the evening meal. Often you will find that two meals a day, at least for a time, will be better than three, for it gives a slow-emptying stomach a chance to get empty and cleaned out so that the next meal is not soured by the remnants of food still remaining in the stomach. What happens is much like putting fresh milk in an unwashed pan that has contained sour milk. Sometimes the missing of a meal and the drinking of a glass of hot water may clean out a sour stomach and give it a fresh start. Whatever you do, avoid the use of baking soda which may seem to give quick relief, but which will in time destroy the acid cells lining the stomach. Avoid nervous tension. It might be well, in stubborn cases, to get away for a short vacation in the country and live outdoors, free from business rush and pressure.

What are the outstanding symptoms of undulant fever?-B.C.

This is a disease that at times may be rather hard to diagnose. The name undulant fever means recurring fever, . . . this characteristic being present in most cases, may lead to suspicion of the disease where no other cause can be found. Miss Alice Evans, who discovered this disease, told me that large numbers of people may have the disease in a light form and who know only that they do not feel well and seem to stay in a run-down condition.

She herself contracted the disease while working in the laboratory and handling the germs. When I last talked with her, she said she had been free of symptoms for a time, but she felt she could hardly say she was cured, for the disease has the habit of starting up again when it is thought to have been cured. I took to her a young clergyman who had been treated at a government hospital in Washington for nine months and at another private hospital for a time. He had showed a negative Widal's test. She ran a Widal's test which was also negative, then she did a socalled opsonic index test and this was negative. Last, she did an intradermal test and got a large red area on the forearm as big as the palm of the hand. This she considered definitely positive, and he was treated accordingly.

She gave as her opinion that the most certain test was the intradermal test. Even then, however, it might be difficult to tell whether it was a recent active infection or simply an immune reaction from previous contact with the germs. A very active reaction might favor its being a recent active case of the disease. Persons who do not drink raw milk or handle diseased meats should seldom if ever contract the disease.

Brief Discussions of

Sound Doctrine

States By the Editor States

The Bible relates a great number of details of ancient history that have been held in question by many able writers of profane history. Some have considered the early chapters of Genesis as nothing more than Oriental folklore. Perhaps there is good reason for this when one considers the fact that there have been apparent discrepancies until recent times. But with the discovery of important stones and inscriptions in late years, proof of the Bible records has been found.

In some instances after the discovery of monuments and inscriptions, the history books, wherein theories were propounded contrary to the Bible record, have of necessity been revised. This only goes to show that the doubts entertained concerning the accuracy of the numerous biblical statements have been due to ignorance. More and more, men are amazed at the thorough accuracy of the seemingly encumbered historical books of the Old Testament. It is evidence of divine Inspiration that such detailed accounts are proved true by the archeological discoveries of our times.

Many people probably wonder why the Bible abounds in "uninteresting" lists of names of persons and places. These will cease to wonder when they see the relation of these lists to presentday discoveries that strengthen our confidence in the trustworthiness of the records.

In Numbers 33, for instance, there are forty-two spots named as camping places for the children of Israel on their way to Palestine. It has been found that this is not a fictitious list, nor a diary, but an important record. Such records as this prove that the Bible was not written by a writer of fiction, for it is incredible that anyone would encumber his pages with such a barren catalogue of places unless it was given as a part of a great historical movement.

Sir Walter Besant, in addition to his



other literary and philanthropic labors, was for many years secretary of the Palestine Exploration Fund. He was asked whether the work of the survey under his direction sustained the historical character of the Old Testament. His answer was: "To my mind, absolute truth in local details, a thing which cannot possibly be invented, when it is spread over a history covering many centuries, is proof almost absolute as to the truth of the things related." In other words, the Bible records, though given in detail, have been found to be true, and, therefore, it is a true book. It is not only true. but it must be inspired of God for no writer of profane history could ever match its thoroughness and its complete infallibility to the minutest detail in its spread over so many centuries.

A case in point to prove the truth of the Scriptures is that of Abraham and Hammurabi. The Biblical story makes them contemporaneous. "Until recently this chronology was disputed, so that the editors and contributors of the New Schaff-Herzog Cyclopedia dogmatically asserted that as Abraham lived nearly 300 years later than Hammurabi, the biblical story must be unhistorical. Hardly had these statements been printed, however, when Dr. King of the British Museum discovered indisputable evidence that two of the dynasties which formerly had been reckoned as consecutive were, in fact contemporaneous."-The Fundamentals, Vol. II, p. 25. Therefore Hammurabi's time is reliably brought down to that of Abraham. The

Cyclopedia therefore had to be corrected.

It strengthens the faith of the true believer in God's Word every time some monument, stone, or inscription is uncovered which verifies the Biblical record. Almost every time the stones speak out, some argument against the Word is silenced. Next month we will discuss some of the discoveries of recent years that prove the absolute truth of the Bible.

The Age of Advance

(Continued from page 5)

fluorescent tubes? Why have they emerged from open fireplaces, to wood stoves, to coal furnaces, to automatic oil burners, to insulated and air-conditioned homes? Why did not physicians and surgeons learn how to conquer pain and suffering with anesthetics and surgery, and to prolong life by means of sanitation, hygiene, dietetics, and health measures before this past 100 years?

A century ago we circumvented the earth with the old sailboat, requiring six months to a year to make the trip around the earth. Now, suddenly, with jet planes we can make the circuit in a few days. A century ago it took nearly six months to send news to the opposite side of the earth. Now, suddenly, we radio news and information to the farthest corner of the earth in two seconds of time. Why this rapid travel and transmission of knowledge and news? Why have the people living in America developed all these resources and multiplied all these facilities beyond the people of any other nation? What has enabled Americans suddenly in this present generation to outdistance all the rest of the nations in the world in extending the benefits of their resources, inventions, discoveries, love gifts, and gratuities to the needy inhabitants of the world?

There is a divine answer to this unprecedented record of progress and achievement which has so suddenly in this generation transformed a wild and wooly wilderness, occupied for many centuries by native Indians, into the most peaceful, prosperous, and enlightened country which this world ever witnessed. That answer is not centered in our national resources. These same rich resources were all here when the American Indians roamed the wilds of North America. Other nations had as much iron, coal, oil, copper, gold, silver, aluminum, zinc, lead, uranium, radium, and other material resources as the United States. These resources have always been available to the inhabitants of Europe, Russia, China, India, Africa,

and South America. Four thousand years ago crude oil was discovered, not in Oil City, Pennsylvania, oozing out of the earth, but in Baku, Asia. Why did the crude oil that oozed out on top of the water in a creek near Oil City, Pennsylvania, revolutionize modern heating facilities and transportation, but make no impression upon the inhabitants of Baku four thousand years ago? Again we are forced to look for a divine answer to this question.

The God of heaven who "revealeth the deep and secret things" appeared unto the prophet Daniel in the days of Nebuchadnezzar, the king of Babylon, and made known not only "what should come to pass hereafter," but "what shall be in the latter days" of the last kingdom that was to rule upon this earth, just before the God of heaven was to "break in pieces and consume all these [earthly] kingdoms" and was to "set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed." Daniel 2:28, 29, 44.

stroyed." Daniel 2:28, 29, 44. Unto Daniel the prophet was revealed that four world kingdoms were to "bear rule over the earth," and that in the days of the divided fourth empire, just before the end of all earthly kingdoms, the prophecies of the book of Daniel would be unsealed during "the time of the end," and "many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall be increased." Daniel 12:4. Said the angel Gabriel to Daniel: "Go thy way, Daniel: for the words are closed up and sealed till the time of the end. Many shall be purified, and made white, and tried; but the wicked shall do wickedly: and none of the wicked shall understand; but the wise shall understand." Verses 9, 10.

Daniel was informed by the angel Gabriel that at the end of the great prophetic time periods, covering thousands of years, there was to be a period of time known as "the time of the end," and it was at that time that great activity was to take place, when it was predicted that "many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall be increased."

Likewise, the prophet Nahum was given a revelation of what was to take place upon this earth just before "the Lord will take vengeance on His adversaries." He prophesied of "the day of trouble," when "the shield of His mighty men is made red, the valiant men are in scarlet, the chariots [automobiles] shall be with flaming torches in the day of His preparation, and the fir trees shall be terribly shaken. The chariots [automobiles] shall rage in the streets, they shall justle one against another in the broad ways: they shall seem like torches,

What Is a Cross?

What is a cross, if it lift me high? What is a loss, if it bring Thee nigh? And what of pain, if it become song, And what of scars in the battle with wrong? What storm and stress, if close Thou'lt be? What Calvary, if we rise with Thee?

BY INEZ BRASIER

they shall run like the lightnings." Nahum 2:3, 4.

In the time of the end, just before the Lord is to come back to the earth "the second time without sin unto salvation" (Hebrews 9:28), He predicted that "the everlasting gospel" was to be proclaimed "unto them that dwell on the earth, and to every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people . . . for the hour of His judgment is come" (Revelation 14:6, 7). Jesus said when "this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations, . . . then shall the end come." Matthew 24:14.

It is quite evident that America had been purposely reserved with all its abundant resources through the past six thousand years, to be utilized in the last generation as a reservoir for God to draw from to accomplish His final work in all the earth. Divine Providence had His eve upon America as His treasure house. He kept America from being exploited by the robber barons and tyrants of the past. He intended America to become the cradle of liberty and the home of the free and the brave. He preserved America in isolation that it might become the place to work out His ideals and principles of human government and to proclaim the everlasting gospel to the people of all nations as the final means of man's redemption.

In America freedom has come into full bloom and has yielded its most benign fruitage. It is here that all men and all religions stand on the same equality before the law, and the fundamental and inalienable rights of the individual are recognized as paramount to governmental authority. If the people of America ever repudiate the precious heritage of civil and religious liberty bequeathed to them by the founding fathers of this matchless republic, the last hope of political freedom in human government will perish and the time will be ripe for God to visit His retributive judgments upon the inhabitants of this earth and establish instead His own everlasting kingdom of glory which is never to be destroyed.

America has become the marvel of all nations because of the triumph of freedom for all men, equal opportunity, free enterprise, individual initiative, the free exercise of the conscience in all religious concerns, and the desire to be at peace with all men and all nations. The special favor and blessing of God have rested upon America because its people have exalted the truth of God's Word in recognizing the value and dignity of the individual by safeguarding his fundamental rights, by rendering "unto Cæsar the things which are Cæsar's; and unto God the things that are God's" (Matthew 22:21), and by recognizing the equality of all sects before the bar of justice. If America loses sight of these great fundamental principles and ideals and adopts totalitarian principles of government, the world is doomed. Ichabod will be written over the door to the temple of freedom, and the glory of man will be turned to shame.

America today stands at the crossroads that lead to glory or that lead to ruin.

The Power of Prayer

(Continued from page 7)

from destruction by the warlike Amalakites and later from the wrath of an offended God at Mount Sinai. (Exodus 5, and onward.)

The prayers of Elijah defeated the cruel purpose of Jezebel and saved Israel from a terrible apostasy and possible ex-tinction. (1 Kings 18.) The prayers of Asa brought defeat to an Ethiopian army of one million men and three hundred chariots. (2 Chronicles 14.) The earnest petitions of King Jehoshaphat brought victory to the small army of Israel being attacked by overwhelming allied forces. (2 Chronicles 20.) The prayers of Daniel, Ezra, Nehemiah, and others delivered their people from Babylonian captivity and restored them to their homeland. It was the power of prayer that wielded the sword of the Spirit in the great Protestant Reformation and thus changed the course of history. Someone has said that "from the secret place of prayer came the power that shook the world in the great Reformation."

Jesus gave two parables to teach the necessity of persistency in prayer. The parable of the unjust judge was given "to this end, that men ought always to pray, and not to faint," or lose heart. Luke 18:1. The widow pressed her just claims and refused to take "no" for an answer. The judge doubtless treated her with disdain and did everything possible to discourage her, but to no avail. The judge is called "unjust" by way of contrast to a just God. If an unjust judge will finally render justice and grant the persistent requests of a suppliant, surely "the God of justice" will answer the prayers of His people when they are in harmony with His will.

The other parable was of a man asking for bread of a neighbor to feed a tired, hungry traveler who had arrived at his home at midnight. The neighbor made excuses and at first refused to respond to the appeal. He said that the door was shut and locked and he was in bed with his family. But the answer finally came, not on the basis of friendship or neighborly courtesy, but "because of his importunity," or persistency. The parable is followed by the promise of Jesus: "Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you. For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened." See Luke 11:5-10. It has been said that "we are to ask with a beggar's humility, to seek with a servant's carefulness, and to knock with the confidence of a friend."

In the first parable we are assured that the Lord will eventually answer the prayers of His people even "though He bear long with them," or "although He seems slow to take action on their behalf." Weymouth. From our viewpoint the long delayed answers to many of our prayers seem hard to understand. Perhaps nothing has contributed more to the false idea that the Lord does not hear or that He is indifferent to our requests and needs. Since God does nothing unreasonable, there must be a good reason for delays in granting our petitions, and these delays must be for the good of those who pray. Prayer does not change God, nor does it change His mind. He knows our needs before we begin to pray, and He longs to supply them. Prayer changes the petitioner. It changes his attitude and character. It prepares him to receive and appreciate



the answer when it finally comes to him.

Nothing contributes more to the ruining of the characters and the dispositions of children than to always have their requests answered immediately. They soon become greedy, selfish, and self-centered. They soon cease to appreciate what comes to them at their bidding. The most unselfish children, and later the most useful and respected men and women, are those who did not get all they asked for, or had to wait till they learned how to appropriate and appreciate the gifts of life. Appreciation comes only through years of self-denial and selfdiscipline in the school of experience. The greatest men and women are developed by the acid tests in the darkroom of adversity and disappointment. This is doubtless because "man's extremity is God's opportunity." Abraham Lincoln declared that in times of perplexity when human wisdom failed, he often went to God in prayer because he had nowhere else to go.

Prayer was the secret of Christ's godliness of character and power for ministry. John R. Mott said: "If the hills back of Nazareth could give back their secrets, if the lake of Galilee could tell what it witnessed, if the desert places round about Jerusalem could tell their story, if the Mount of Olives could speak out and tell us what transpired there, they would tell us, more than anything else, of the prayer life of our Lord. They would reveal its intensity, its unselfishness, its constancy, its godly fear that made it irresistible." The same prayer habits will also make our influence irresistible.

The history of the past is replete with examples of the downfall of nations because they refused to acknowledge "that the Most High ruleth in the kingdom of men, and giveth it to whomsoever He will," Daniel 4:17. The greatest contribution to the all-out war effort of the United Nations to preserve democracy, and therefore Christianity, is for both leaders and citizens, high and low, and rich and poor, to acknowledge God as the supreme Ruler and worship Him in sincerity and truth.

Church History Foretold

(Continued from page 9)

"They shall be handed over to him for a year, two years, and half a year."-A.V.

As here employed, the word "time" is the equivalent for "year." (See also Moffatt's Translation, and Daniel 11:13, margin.) In other prophecies concerning the Papacy, the same period of time is otherwise designated as:

"A time, and times, and half a time." Revelation 12:14.

"Forty and two months." Revelation 13:5.

"A thousand two hundred and three-

score days." Revelation 12:6. A "time" (one year), "times" (two years), and the "dividing of time" (a half year), equal three and one-half years. Using the ecclesiastical reckoning of the Jews, which was 360 days to each year and thirty days to each month, the three and one-half years, the forty-two months, and the "thousand two hundred and threescore days" are all seen to equal the same period-1260 days,

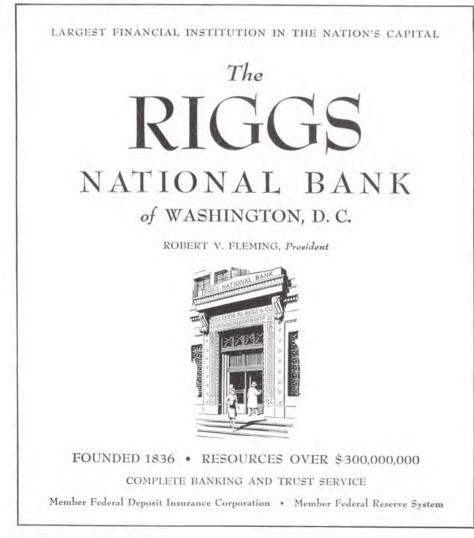
Inspiration also provides the Bible student with a prophetic-time key which reveals that a "day" in figurative language represents a literal year. (Numbers 14:34; Ezekiel 4:6.) The authority of the papal church over the saints, the times, and the laws of God was therefore to be seized and retained for 1260 years. And how wonderfully does history confirm the voice of prophecy! The commencement of that time was signalized by two significant events: the imperial decree of Justinian in A.D. 533, recognizing the supremacy of the pope of Rome as "head of all the churches"; and the decisive blow to the Ostrogoths in A.D. 538, which expelled the last powerful enemy from the seven-hilled city and provided the opportunity for the decreee to operate freely.

For more than a millennium thereafter the Papacy ruled throughout Christendom, and the "destinies of men, both for time and for eternity, seemed under his control." But at length, near the close of the eighteenth century, Europe was mightily convulsed by the tragic, far-reaching events of the French Revolution. France, the once-stalwart defender of the Papacy, fell into the hands of radical leaders who with fiery determination set out to abolish crowns and thrones, churches and creeds.

In 1798 a French army led by General Berthier, entered the city of Rome, proclaimed a republic, and carried the aged pontiff into exile in France, where he died the following year. "No wonder that half Europe thought Napoleon's veto would be obeyed, and that with the Pope the Papacy was dead."—The Modern Papacy, p. 1.

These events of the French Revolution marked the close of the long prophetic period, and inflicted upon the Church of Rome its "deadly wound." Observe the exactness in the fulfillment of this divine prophecy. From the decree of Justinian in A.D. 533, establishing Papal supremacy, to the decree of the French Convention in 1793 abolishing that power, is exactly 1260 years. Again, from A.D. 538, when the sword of Belisarius elevated Pope Vigilius as universal pontiff, to the time when the sword of Bertheir thrust Pope Pius VI from office in 1798, is also 1260 years. The signet of fulfilled prophecy is affixed in duplicate.

Not long after the death of the exiled pope, another was chosen to wear the triple crown; and with the march of nineteenth- and twentieth-century events there has also developed an as-



tonishing revival of papal prestige. Especially since World War I the priestking on the Tiber has in some respects been elevated to new heights of power and greatness.

Vatican City has become a free and independent state, maintaining regular diplomatic relations with forty-four nations and semi-official intercourse with several others. It is acknowledged that the "Holy See" wields vast international influence in both political and ecclesiastical affairs, which dual role is in full accord with the prophetic forcast. Inspiration also indicates that the Papacy is to continue in some form until the time of final judgment. Said Daniel: "I beheld; and the same horn made war with the saints, and prevailed against them; until the Ancient of days came, and judgment was given to the saints of the Most High; and the time came that the saints possessed the kingdom." Daniel 7:21, 22.

In this remarkable drama, we are deeply impressed with the photographic accuracy with which every part and portion of the Scripture forecast has been fulfilled. And, thank God, the hour of God's judgment is rapidly approaching. The world stage is in readiness for the final act when all evil, injustice, and violence will have an end, and when "the Desire of all nations" will come to reign in peace and equity.

Roads to Ruin

(Continued from page 13)

destruction of the earth will be carried out by God Himself.

Our God still continues to plead with the children of men to turn from evil and do good, but the world mocks Him and goes right on wilfully disobeying. While He has made the supreme sacrifice to save this old world, the vast majorities continue to follow the archdeceiver. It is no small wonder that the nations find themselves in such a critical state. The Word of God plainly says that "he that committeth sin is of the devil; for the devil sinneth from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that He might destroy the works of the devil." 1 John 3:8. So it is Christ who will destroy the earth, not atom bombs, germs, meteors, icecaps, or starvation. When He comes as "King of kings, and Lord of lords," He will "destroy them which destroy the earth." (Revelation 19:14-16; 11:18.) On the other hand, "He is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by Him." Hebrews 7:25.



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