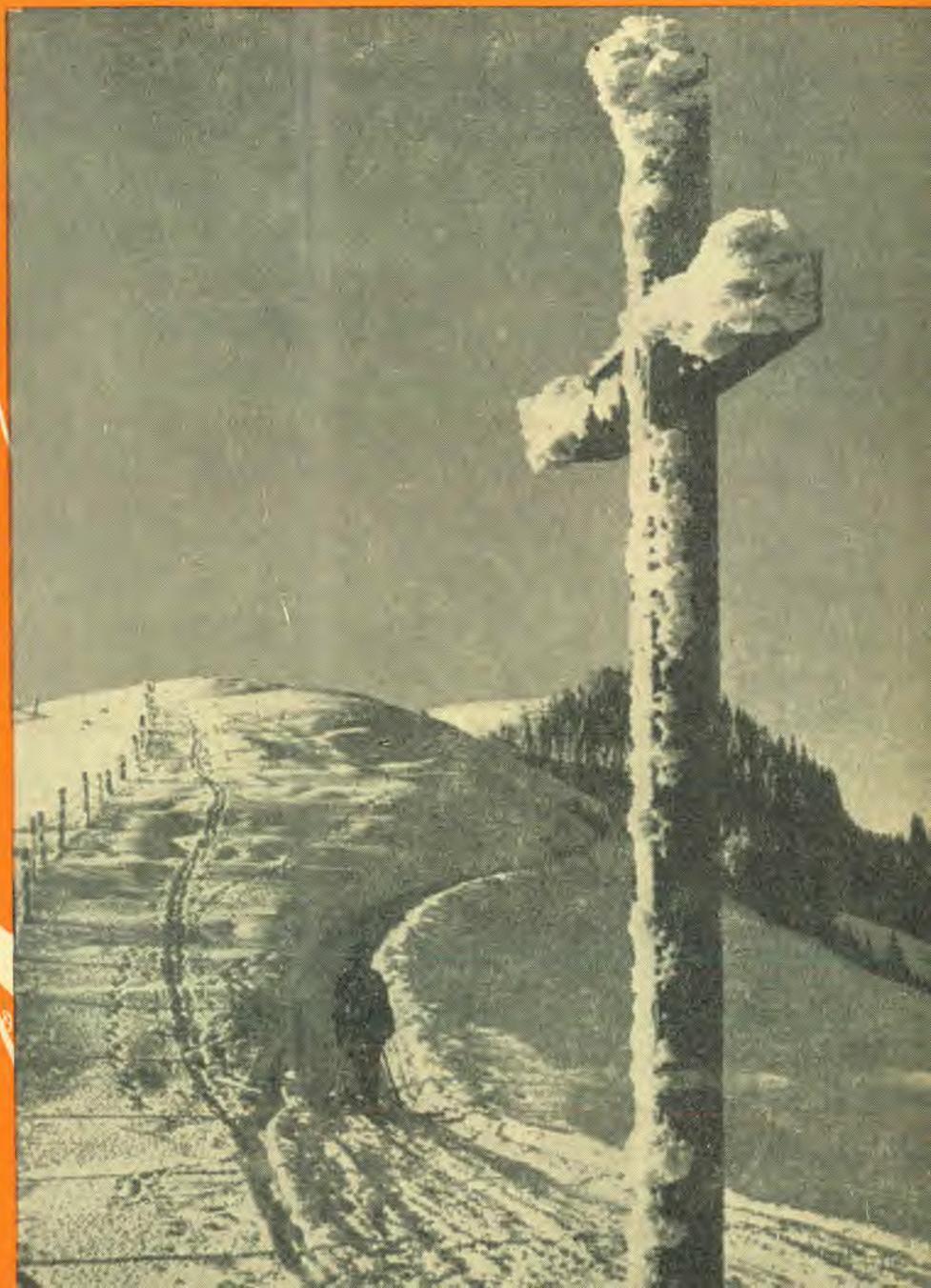


# 7<sup>th</sup> and COUNTRY TIMES



# Making RESOLUTIONS Work

★ "RESOLVES are as hard as ice when made," a Cumbrian farmer once confided to me, "but so often like ice they soon melt away." And indeed, how many firm decisions are vowed on December 31st and how many of them are broken and jettisoned before January 1st has gone! Thus between ourselves and the people we would like to be lies the barrier of our singular inability to say, "I will," and do it.

"Wilt thou be made whole?" Thus queried Jesus of one, who, for a weary succession of thirty-eight winters, had been utterly unable to walk unaided. This sufferer's semi-paralysis, which prevented his going wherever he wished, was but little different from the crippling power of wrong habits. Undesirable habits do cripple; nor is there any cure from them in our own resources. Hence the hopelessness of those who have struggled for years in vain. But the Scriptures reveal Jesus Christ as the One who can deliver though one be bound for thirty-eight years. "Thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory." 1 Cor. 15:57.

By no means then are those who are thus handicapped without hope. Actually, the very desire to escape from evil is divinely begotten in the soul. Like the warm summer sun wooing the blooms to turn on their stems and face its light, so our Lord seeks to constrain us to turn toward Him that He may bestow perfection of character. To all He is waiting to say, "This is the way, walk ye in it." Isa. 30:21. God is on the side of tempted man, God wishes him to have victory, and God can give him the victory.

### Christ's Power to Deliver

The world offers its psychological approaches



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© Dorien Leigh  
Begin the New  
Year with God.

---

to problems of temperament and behaviour, but none come near the supreme deliverance wrought by our Lord. Did not the cripple of Bethesda rise to his feet immediately Jesus had spoken to him? There was instantaneous deliverance! "He sets the prisoners free," wrote the hymnist. If you wish to start a new page on January 1st, turn in your Bible to Luke 8:26-36, and there read and meditate upon Christ's power to deliver.

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By J. R. Lewis

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Is it not true that the lovely dragonfly creeps from an ugly larva? So likewise, one who will "only believe," will find a like transformation in his own heart and life.

The Scripture has an answer for those who have become discouraged by past failures. Micah the prophet wrote: "Rejoice not against me, O mine enemy: when I fall, I shall arise." Micah 7:8. Such words taken upon the lips can never fail to lead to conquest, for while they acknowledge a lapse, they place it in the past as an undecisive

episode, the determination of the speaker being to try again until the desired deliverance is won.

Roy Allan Anderson, whose preaching stirred thousands in London a few years ago, was fond of one very effective illustration. He likened the unshakable nature of bad habits to dead oak leaves which all the winter cling to their twigs unaffected by gale, rain, or frost, but which fall off in the spring when the new sap rising from the roots pushes away the old growth. Old habits which resist direct attack fall imperceptibly away when new habits are deliberately cultivated. New books, new friends, new environments, new hobbies, new studies, can break the power of old and less desirable associations and activities.

#### A Mind Renewed

"Have your mind renewed, and so be transformed in nature," is how Dr. Moffatt translates the advice of Paul in Romans 12:2. This is sound advice. It is scientific advice. Because many resolution-makers seek to control outward actions while ignoring the state of the mind, they fail; for one essential secret of self-control and victory is right thinking, and the right use of the imagination. The reasoning powers must be convinced of the undesirableness of the old ways. An emotional abhorrence is good, but not enough in itself. The imagination must also visualize the results of living the old way.

Do you remember how Scrooge in his Christmas Eve dream saw his frightening future brought before his eyes? What he saw powerfully affected his future conduct. Let a man visualize in detail what he wishes himself to become, and God will aid him. On the other hand, "where there is no vision, the people perish."

The will, which is the deciding factor in man, rarely wins when the imagination opposes it, whereas on the other hand, the will supported by good reason and strong imagination can accomplish great things. Reading the Bible gives reason and vision in the pursuit of right conduct, and introduces the student to One who "is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy." Jude 24.

#### The Power of the Will

Of course, a good choice and happy feelings are not always immediately contemporary. The right path of conduct has often to be followed in the face of most discouraging feelings and

moods. Such conflicts are, however, usually brief, for feelings will always bow before a determined will. As Ellen G. White so pertinently says: "You need to understand the true force of the will. This is the governing power in the nature of man. . . . You cannot change your heart, you cannot of yourself give to God its affections; but you can choose to serve Him. You can give Him your will; He will then work in you to will and to do according to His good pleasure."—*Steps to Christ*, page 37.

May the New Year be a year of conquest to you all.



## A Happy New Year

A Happy New Year! the merry bells ring,  
A Happy New Year! the carollers sing,  
From far and from near, like birds on the wing,  
Sounds the message sweet all so eagerly bring,  
"I wish you a Happy New Year!"

Where is the key to a Happy New Year?  
What secret unlocks every moment dear?  
The wise man whispers it in my ear,  
Sweet singer of Israel gives counsel clear,  
Yea! apostle, prophet, and ancient seer  
The answer proclaim, the secret now hear!  
For a Happy, Happy New Year.

He who "seeketh wisdom," the key doth find;  
Who "feareth God" hath the secret enshrined;  
Whoso "showeth mercy," He hath Christ's mind;  
A "heart contrite," hath happiness entwined;  
But! 'tis ever locked to disobedience blind;  
Oh, seek "the Way, the Truth, the Life"—be kind!  
The key to a Happy New Year.

Ye bells again ring, yea! ring out your chime!  
Go, carollers, sing, o'er each land and clime!  
The message ring out while yet lingers time!  
"Fear God, give Him glory"—the secret divine,  
For a very Happy New Year.

Mrs. M. H. Cooper.

# IT'S ALL A HOAX!

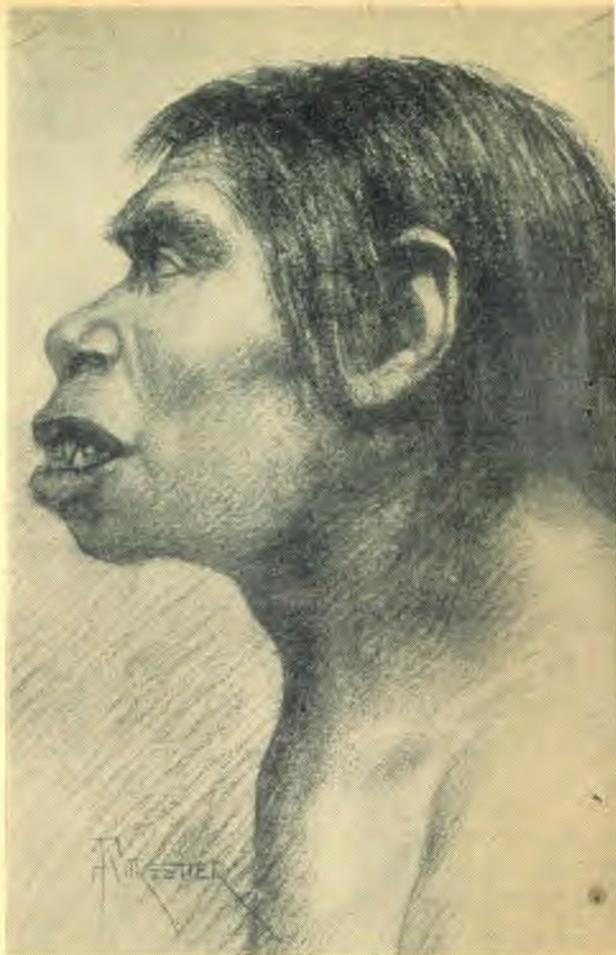
By R. D. Vine

★ As lawyer Charles Dawson was walking along a farm road close to Piltdown Common, Sussex, one day in 1908, he was astonished by the peculiar brown flints two labourers were using for road repairs. Their source, he discovered, was a narrow trench in a nearby farm. Ardent evolutionist that he was, he asked the labourers to retain anything which might look like bones or fossils.

Some time after, when visiting the spot again, he was handed what seemed to be a piece of a human skull. At once he began to search for himself, but his enthusiasm was unrewarded. Yet surely, he thought, there must be other remains; so some years later he was back again at the historic spot. This time further skull fragments came to light. Dr. Woodward of the British Museum now became so interested that he joined Dawson in the fascinating task of sifting "evolutionary evidence" from the Piltdown gravel. Diminutive bits which were hailed as tooth fragments of mastodons, beavers, hippopotami, and an elephant, were laboriously extracted.

Finally there came to light the controversial jaw fragment which was hailed by many—though not by all—as proof of the fossil man's great antiquity. The bone was chinless, having the peculiar ape-like (simian) shelf within, which the normal human jaw lacks.

Dr. Woodward pieced the five bits of fossil bone together, filling in the empty spaces with clay—an operation involving much anatomical reasoning and evolutionary imagining, for the resultant head was largely of clay! Needless to say, the artist's drawing of what the creature looked like in the flesh, did ample justice to the evolutionists' "missing link" conception. It was bestial, hairy, horrific, and was christened with the imposing title *Eoanthropus Dawsoni* (Dawson's Dawn Man). Here indeed, was the earliest



© Illustrated London News  
An imaginative reconstruction of the famous  
"Piltdown Man."

Briton, who lived at least 300,000 years ago—or so it was claimed.

It is true, not everyone accepted the monster as genuine. The incongruity of an ape-like jaw with the well developed human cranium, outraged credulity—but not in every case. Sir Arthur Keith, foremost anthropologist, applauded the find, hailing it as "one of the most remarkable discoveries of the twentieth century." His great work, *The Antiquity of Man*, is largely a study of *Eoanthropus*.

#### The Myth Exploded

But now the myth is exploded. On Saturday, November 21, 1953, the British Museum announced that the "missing link" jaw is that of a modern chimpanzee or orang, having no connection whatever with the few fragments of cranium. Discoverers of what is claimed as an

"unscrupulous and inexplicable" hoax, are Dr. J. S. Weiner, Prof. W. E. Le Gros Clark, both of Oxford University, and Dr. K. P. Oakley of the British Museum. Chemical analysis of filings from both cranium and jaw reveal the latter as belonging to an ape which must have lived only fifty years before—rather different from the earlier claim of 300,000 years!

It is now declared that the jaw must have been "introduced into the pit after it was known that the cranium had been found and further searches would take place. This was done by someone who knew a good deal about fossilizing bones."

Thus has the fatal blow been struck at Piltdown's pre-eminence. And all the erudite books and erudite articles on the subject, by erudite scientists and theorists, are now exposed as utterly worthless—except as evidence of the unbelievable credulity of otherwise intelligent men.

Comment by Sir Hugh Dawson, nephew of the solicitor who discovered the Piltdown fossil, is: "I know he found it. Every schoolboy knows that. But that's all I know."

And therein lies the tragedy. For despite the controversy which has raged over the few paltry fossil fragments, despite the admitted uncertainty regarding their ancestry, the "Piltdown Man" soon found his way into educational textbooks. His hideous appearance, as imagined and drawn by evolutionary artists, is a familiar sight to every schoolboy, and has served to prejudice many a juvenile mind against the Bible record of creation.

How could the story of Adam be true? Why, here from Sussex was a remote ancestor fifty times more distant from our day than Adam! *Eoanthropus*, backed up by Sir Arthur Keith and others, seemed to give the lie to the Bible story.

But now the truth is out. *Eoanthropus* stands exposed for the fraud he is. Future textbooks will be compelled to omit him from their array of "evolutionary evidence."

#### No Unanimity

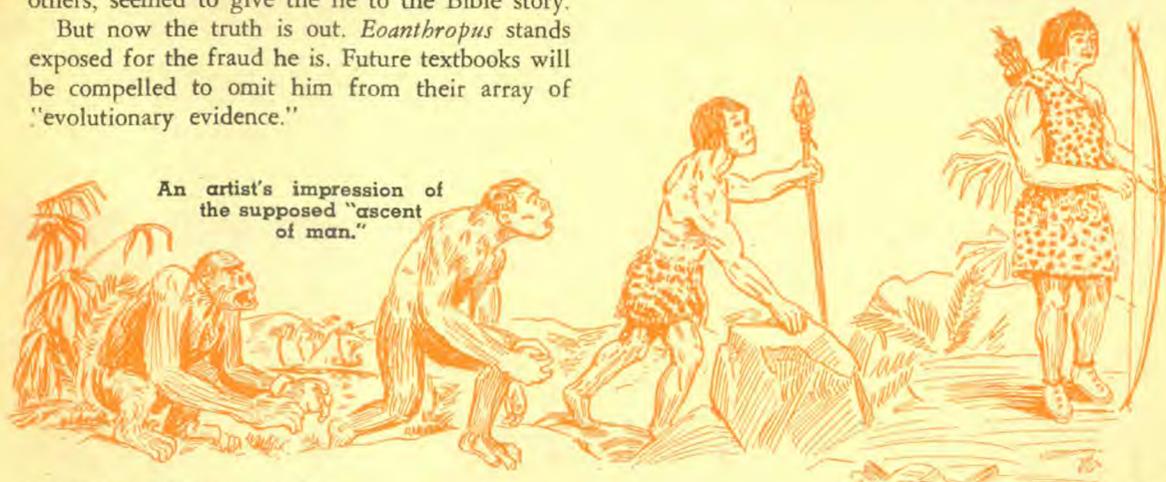
Yet the textbooks will continue graphically to portray the other so-called "ape-men" who have been cleverly reconstructed from the merest fragments, even though no unanimity exists among scientists as to their appearance or their antiquity. Even the famed *Pithecanthropus*, virtually hailed as the ape-theory's keystone, is regarded by many scientists merely as the remains of a giant gibbon. And of course, it is totally impossible to establish the antiquity of the half dozen scattered fragments from which the horrifying—though to some, convincing—reconstruction was made.

No palæontologist or geologist has at any time made any find which could not be simply explained in harmony with God's Word. In fact, Oswald Spengler in his famous book, *Decline of the West*, goes so far as to say that "palæontology furnishes the most conclusive refutation of Darwinism."—Page 311.

Many a creationist can be found among the scientific élite, who find no difficulty explaining the fossil record in the light of the Bible revelation. Said Sir J. William Dawson: "The evolutionist doctrine is itself one of the strangest phenomena of humanity, but that in our day a system destitute of any shadow of proof, and supported merely by vague analogies and figures of speech, and by the arbitrary and artificial coherence of its own parts, should be accepted as a philosophy, and should enable its adherents to string upon its thread of hypotheses our vast and weighty store of knowledge, is surpassing strange."—*The Story of Earth and Man*, page 317.

Yet such is the situation that publicity by press and radio is virtually denied the scientific crea-

(Continued on page 13.)



An artist's impression of the supposed "ascent of man."

# "Our Father"

By E. W. H. Vick



"Teach us to pray."

one naturally recalls the Ten Commandments with their same structural form. The difference, however, is between law and grace. The Decalogue shows us our debt to God. Our Lord's prayer assures us of His continual provision for us.

In these articles, we shall consider the prayer as a prayer, seeking to find practical help that will guide us as we approach God and teach us what we should bring to God in prayer. If our prayer life seems inadequate, if we have a feeling of insufficiency in prayer, where better can we tarry than at Jesus' feet, asking, "Lord teach us to pray," and hearing Him answer, "When ye pray, say . . ."

## The Meaning of "Father"

The way we think about the God we worship determines how we shall approach Him. The prayers offered to Him will be in accordance with our conception of His character. The heathen thinks of his god as greedy, lustful, selfish; so he approaches him with fear, and with gifts and sacrifices to propitiate his wrath. To the Christian, God is gentle and loving, to whom even the little child can lisp his simple petition.

To call God Father means that He is approachable. It is a family name and prayer brings us closer into the family relationship with God than any other act of devotion. Many a young person today has bitter memories of home life as broken through the unfaithfulness of parents to each other and to their children. But God is a good Father. That word expresses something about God in a way which we can understand. It is the

★ COLERIDGE said that prayer was "the highest art of which the human mind is capable." To get through from earth to heaven, present our adoration, our praise, our thanksgiving, our intercessions, our penitence, our petitions to God is indeed an awesome exercise. And though we pray every day from childhood, we may well feel that we do not know how to pray as effectively as we would like.

To help us to direct our thoughts acceptably to God we have the Lord's own model prayer. Its words are so familiar, Yet they are words which take a lifetime to begin to understand. It is a pattern prayer, yet because it is known so well it is often used thoughtlessly.

The structure of the prayer is very simple. After the invocation, there are six petitions: the first three have a Godward reference; the remaining three a manward reference. In this connection,

language of humanity, but a perfect human father provides a glimpse of what God is like.

Because God is called "our Father," however, we have a responsibility to Him. "A son honoureth his father. . . . If then I be a Father, where is Mine honour?" Mal. 1:6. Because God is our Father in the deepest and truest sense, we owe more to Him than to any human being. He comes before any earthly tie.

A good father has many duties. He must protect and sustain those within the circle of home. His is the privilege of leadership. He must understand and forbear, instruct and correct. Many are the Bible passages that tell of God's promises and activity in these ways.

The Fatherhood of God to Israel denoted His gracious interest in the nation and the providential care with which He sustained it and made it the vehicle of His revelation. "Doubtless Thou art our Father, . . . Thou, O Lord, art our Father, our Redeemer." Isa. 63:16. "I am a Father to Israel." Jer. 31:9. "Have we not all one Father? hath not one God created us?" Mal. 2:10.

Jesus took the term and used it as His characteristic description of God. He enriched the Old Testament conception and widened its scope. God is Father to all who are prepared to enter with Him into the family relationship.

Life comes from the human father. And likewise our heavenly Father gives love and life. The new birth makes us God's sons. "As many as received Him, to them gave He power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on His name." John 1:12.

Note, however, in this verse that birth is not the end but the beginning of a process of "becoming." We partake of the family likeness when we accept Jesus as our Saviour. We grow into the family relationship as we enter into the life of the family. This experience Paul calls the "adoption of sons." Gal. 4:5.

#### A Parable of Sonship

That gem of parables in the fifteenth chapter of Luke, teaches some wonderful truths about sonship. A father had two sons, one of whom became unworthy of the family because of his unfilial life. He wandered off into a far country and there wasted the reminders of his father's thrift. But during these lonely months the father remained the same. He still loved his boy. One day his faith was rewarded. The boy was restored to sonship when he returned, ready once again to

fulfil his obligations to his home. So it is with God's family. Those who are prepared to fulfil their obligations to Him by obeying His Word, by entering into the fellowship of the family, are the only ones who really know what it means to pray, "Our Father."

The prayer "Our Father" forbids exclusiveness. No-one has a monopoly on the Fatherhood of God. He loves one and all. He is "our Father" as well as "my Father." We are part of a family whose relationship is not only to God but to the other sons and daughters of the family, to the brotherhood of all believers. We have a kinship with the saints of all ages. To all we owe the love of brothers. As Paul says: "Let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith." Gal. 6:10.

A priest explained to a young beggar boy who asked him for food that God was his Father. He then gave him a piece of bread. "If God is our Father that means that you and I are brothers," said the boy. Then he added, "If you are my brother, I think that you should give me a better piece of bread."

#### Link with Heaven

God is our heavenly Father, "our Father which art in heaven." So this relationship links us also with heaven. Paul writes. "For this cause I bow my knees unto the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, of whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named." Eph. 3:14, 15. Heaven is as real as earth. It is a reality which, when expressed in terms of space and time, cannot fully be understood. But it connotes a great family reunion when all will do the Father's will from the heart.

Friend, if it is possible now to become a son of God, what will it be like when we see Him face to face? If now we are sons, what infinite possibilities stretch beyond this vale of earth! The family tie is stronger than death. There were still seven in the family of Wordsworth's little maid although "two of us in the churchyard lie, beneath the churchyard tree." And when this earthly life is over and the river crossed, we shall see that our sight here was very dim and, in that morning, we shall know what sonship really means.

"Beloved now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when He shall appear, we shall be like Him; for we shall see Him as He is." 1 John 3:2.

# THE HEAVEN



Above.—Mt. Palomar Observatory in Southern California.  
Right.—An "island universe."

The photographs on this page are reproduced by courtesy of the Mt. Palomar and Mt. Wilson Observatories.

★ OUR car turned the last corner of the road, and the steep tortuous climb of five and a half thousand feet up from the blue waters of the Pacific was over. There, framed between the brown slopes of the cutting through which we were driving, rose the giant dome of Mt. Palomar Observatory housing the mightiest telescope in the world. The anticipation of years became realization as I hurried forward to see this modern scientific wonder.

Through the imposing doorway, up the wide staircase, and I found myself in the air-conditioned gallery from whence the great 200-inch reflector could be seen poised ready for the next night's work.

Gazing spellbound at the prodigious instrument, I thought of the transformation in our knowledge of the starry universe since Galileo, the Padua professor of mathematics, first turned his tiny

spectacle-glass tube toward the heavens on January 7, 1610.

## What Galileo Saw

Prior to that moment no man had ever, even on the clearest night, seen at one time more than about 2,000 stars.

Ptolemy, in his *Almagest*, listed only 1,022 stars which he had pin-pointed in the clear Egyptian sky. In the whole heavens of both hemispheres no more than 6,000 were visible to the naked eye.



It was generally believed in that day, not so very long ago, that the earth was the fixed centre of the universe canopied by the blue dome of heaven, across which the sun, moon, and stars, travelled on their daily journey, while a few brighter stars, which they called "planets" or "wanderers," moved in strange tracks among them through the sky.

From time to time since the days of Aristarchus of Samos, in the third century before Christ, a few daring observers had ventured to suggest that the earth itself was suspended in space and actually revolved with the "planets" around the sun, and Copernicus, the Polish scientist, a century before Galileo, had set forth very precisely his view of the solar system spinning on its way around the sun against a background of seemingly immovable stars. But doubters were many, and the authorities of the Roman church made short work of any who essayed to criticize its supposed dogmas. Giordano Bruno indeed was burned at the stake as recently as the year 1600 for believing that there were more worlds than one!

By W. L.

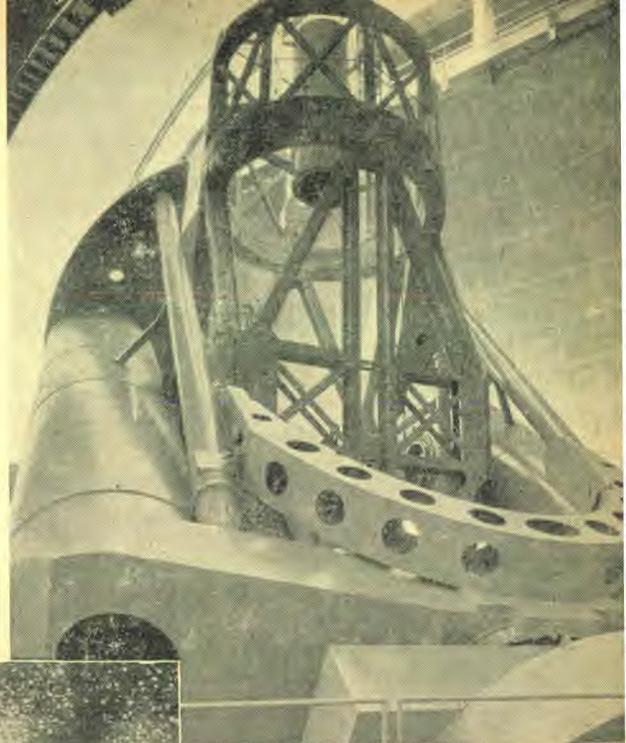
# S ARE TELLING

From the dramatic moment when Galileo first looked through his "optic glass," however, man's conception of the earth and the heavens was revolutionized. Though Galileo's views were suppressed and he himself was compelled to recant under the threats of the Roman Inquisition, he knew that Copernicus was right. The earth and planets were rotating spheres circling round the sun. The moon was a world with mountains and valleys, like the earth, Jupiter had not just one but actually four moons, and the thousand or two stars visible to the naked eye were multiplied by his magic glass two hundred-fold to half a million or more tiny distinct points of light.

With the passing years the relaxation of Rome's hold upon European culture gave freedom to thought, and larger and larger telescopes pushed back the boundaries of space.

With the beginning of the twentieth century, the Hooker 100-inch reflecting telescope was set up on Mt. Wilson, California, and finally came the 200-inch Mount Palomar telescope, which, gathering in a million times as much light as the unaided eye and penetrating three times farther into space than the Hooker telescope, rendered visible not less than 1,000,000,000 stars, besides nebulae, star clusters, comets, asteroids, and other celestial bodies.

Even these were soon shown to be but a tiny portion of the universe, for the introduction of the telescopic camera, which enabled the light of infinitely fainter stars to be collected by long exposures, has increased the number of stars to something in the



Above.—The 200-inch telescope of Mt. Palomar.

Left.—A portion of our galaxy popularly known as the "Milky Way."

region of twenty quadrillions.

Not only has the telescope incredibly increased our knowledge of the stellar population of the universe, but it has also revealed celestial dimensions almost inconceivable to the human mind.

The earth which appears so large to us who live upon it turns out to be less than a speck of dust on Mount Everest compared with some of the other bodies in the universe.

The star Antares, for example, is no less than 450 times the diameter of the sun, while E Aurigæ may be the size of 300,000 suns or 3,000,000,000 earths.

Yet even these magnitudes are as nothing compared with the distances between the earth and the stars. It was in 1837 that Stuve, using trigonometrical methods and the diameter of the earth's orbit as his base line, announced that while Venus, the nearest planet, was a mere 26,000,000 miles

away and the sun 93,000,000 miles, the star Vega was something like 156 million million miles away. Others were incredibly more distant.

So vast did the universe thus begin to be that distances could no longer be conveniently expressed in miles, and the light year, the distance that light travels in a year at the rate of 185,000 miles a second—that is six million million miles—was adopted as the unit of stellar measurement.

On this basis the moon is but a light-second away, the sun is eight and a half light-minutes away, while the nearest fixed star, Proxima Centauri, is four light years away. Actually, there are only about three dozen stars within sixteen light-years of us and the most distant have been shown by spectrographic methods to be millions of light-years away.

What would the patriarch Job, who said, "Behold the height of the stars" (Job 22:12), have declared if he had really known how high they were?

Sir William Herschel, the great English astronomer, took us a step further in our understanding of the form of the universe when, in 1784, with the aid of his eighteen-inch reflecting telescope, he proved that our solar system with its central sun and revolving planets and satellites is but one tiny member of an incredibly vast rotating starry wheel which appears in the night sky as the Milky Way. This starry wheel, or galaxy, as it is called, is no less than 100,000 light years across and 10,000 light-years thick and contains something like 200,000 million suns.

But that was by no means all. Scattered over the heavens, Sir Wm. Herschel and his contemporaries noticed thousands of clouds of rotating matter, which they called nebulae. When magnified in the greatest telescopes these proved to be immense "milky ways" or "island universes" in their own right.

It has been estimated that within the radius of the visible universe, there are probably a thousand million galactic systems each with a hundred thousand million stars or suns, and separated from one another by an average of one million light-years. And we have no means of knowing what lies beyond the extreme limit of visibility of something like 1,000,000,000 light-years, for as H. Shapley says in his book *Galaxies*, "there is no indication of a boundary."—Page 190.

The universe thus turns out to be an incredibly wonderfully ordered cosmos of planets within solar systems, solar systems within galaxies, and

galaxies within the metagalaxy, or total volume of space.

#### Where Did the Universe Come From?

It was inevitable that, as the picture of the universe grew and crystallized in the human mind, the question should be asked time and again, Where did it all come from? How did this universal order come to be?

The first words of the Bible give an answer which is sublime in its brevity: "In the beginning, God created the heaven and the earth." Gen. 1:1.

Centuries later the Hebrew poet and singer, King David, cried out in rapture as he beheld the starry sky: "The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament showeth His handiwork." Psa. 19:1.

As human knowledge increased, however, some of the new scientists in their pride, tried to banish God from His universe and explain it away as a mere chance arrangement of eternal matter.

Sir James Jeans admits as much in his book, *The Mysterious Universe*, when he says:

"Thirty years ago we thought or assumed that we were heading toward an ultimate reality of a mechanical kind. It seemed to consist of a fortuitous jumble of atoms . . . under the action of blind, purposeless forces," which had by pure chance come to take the form of the wonderful cosmos which the telescopes now disclose. Samuel Butler said to Darwin: "You have emptied Mind out of the universe!"

Little wonder, therefore, that many lay folk, listening to the supposedly plausible arguments of the speculative scientists, should dismiss God from their minds as having been disproved by science.

But during the last three or four decades, a profound change has come about in the attitude of many of the greatest astronomers to the origin and nature of the universe, largely by reason of the two latest and most spectacular astronomical discoveries of all time.

One of these is the recognition that the universe is not an eternal, self-sustaining system as the materialists suggested, going round in interminable circles imposed upon it by the motion of the original "fire-mist," but is actually an "expanding" system spreading out from some central point into outer space at an enormous rate!

The second is the discovery of the clue to the sources of heat and light in the universe in atomic fission, which incidentally has also given us the atomic bomb!

The discovery of these two revolutionary facts has completely knocked the underpinning away from the materialists' stable universe of eternal matter. For if the universe is actually "expanding," it must at some time have begun to expand, and if matter is in process of destruction by atomic fission with the production of light, heat, and other forms of radiation, there must have been a time when these processes got started.

So, in the past twenty or thirty years, one after another of the materialistic theories of the origin of the universe has had to be discarded.

#### Atheism Unthinkable

"Everyone who reflects at all believes . . . in God," asserts Dr. R. A. Millikan, one of the discoverers of the cosmic rays which stream in upon our earth from the outer universe. "To me it is unthinkable that a real atheist should exist. Materialism, as commonly understood, is an altogether absurd and utterly irrational philosophy, and is so regarded, I believe, by most thoughtful men."

And in his B.B.C. broadcasts on "The Nature

of the Universe" not long ago, Dr. Fred Hoyle of Cambridge declared: "Conscious thought is embedded in the very texture of the universe known to science." And "if the cosmos is a thought, there must be a Thinker behind the thought." And "if we accept this it is logical to invest the Thinker with personality."—*The Nature of the Universe*, page 90.

Sir Edmund Whittaker also truly remarked in his 1946 Donnellan Lectures at Trinity College, Dublin, that Thomas Aquinas' proof of God from the order of the universe has, in our time, received confirmations of which Aquinas never dreamed!

The Psalmist with his limited knowledge and understanding was right when he said that only the "fool" could say in his heart, "There is no God." The plan and design of the universe demand a personal Creator and Designer. And the greater the universal cosmos has been found to be, the greater has become the glory and the power of the creative Mind which brought into existence these "wonders without number." (Job 9:9, 10.)

(Next Time: "Not One Faileth.")



## ARE YOU PERPLEXED

about world events and the future as planned by God?

Often you've wondered if there is anything sure . . . anything you can confidently look to for hope and courage.

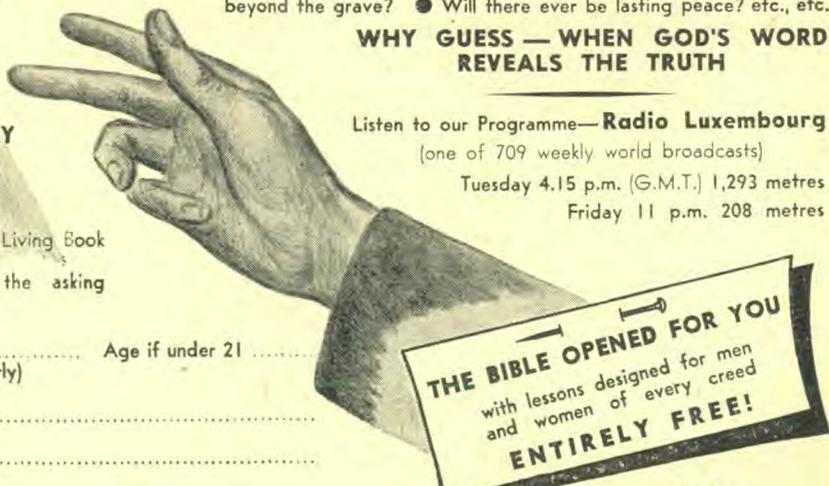
### THERE IS ONLY ONE COMPLETE ANSWER

to questions vital to each one of us such as ● Why does God permit sin and suffering? ● Will Christ come in our day? ● Is there life beyond the grave? ● Will there ever be lasting peace? etc., etc.

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*The Voice of Prophecy Bible School, Stanborough Park, Watford, Herts.*

# Know Your Bible

## The Word of God

What is the Bible declared to be?

*"As for God, His way is perfect: the word of the Lord is refined [margin]: He is a buckler to all them that trust in Him."*  
Psa. 18:30. (See also 2 Samuel 22:31.)

Again and again this expression "the word of the Lord" is used to describe the messages of the Bible.

Is the Bible a revelation of divine purposes and claims?

*"God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets, hath in these last days spoken unto us by His Son."* Heb. 1:1, 2.

This scripture makes the claim that God has spoken to the human race. In the Old Testament, He spoke "unto the fathers by the prophets," and in the New Testament, He speaks to us by His Son. Thus the Old Testament and the New alike are both a message from God to man. It is God speaking to you and me directly.

What other expression emphasizes that the Scriptures are a divine message?

*"Thus saith the Lord God."* Isa. 7:7.

This phrase is used repeatedly in the Scriptures. It assures us that this is indeed "the Word of the living God," which "is not merely written, but spoken. The Bible is God's voice speaking to us, just as surely as though we could hear it with our ears. If we realized this, with what awe would we open God's Word, and with what earnestness would we search its precepts! The reading and contemplation of the Scriptures would be regarded as an audience with the Infinite One."

Does the Bible claim divine inspiration?

*"All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness."*



© Home Words

*ness."* 2 Tim. 3:16. *"For the prophecy came not at any time [margin] by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost."* 2 Peter 1:21.

From these and numerous other texts, it is evident that the Scriptures claim to be divinely inspired. Just "as the body without the spirit [or breath, margin] is dead," so the words of the Bible would be dead letters without the in-breathing of the Spirit of God. Jesus expressed this great truth when He said: "It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing: the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life." James 2:26; John 6:63.

By J. A. McMillan

Though spoken and written by men, what actually is the Bible?

*"For this cause also thank we God without ceasing, because, when ye received the word of God which ye heard of us, ye received it not as the word of men, but as it is in truth, the word of God, which effectually worketh also in you that believe."* 1 Thess. 2:13.

"Just to the degree in which the Word of God is received and obeyed," says E. G. White, "will it impress with its potency, and touch with its life every spring of action, every phase of character. It will purify every thought, regulate every desire. Those who make God's Word their trust, will quit themselves like men and be strong. They will rise above all baser things unto an atmosphere free from defilement."—*Ministry of Healing*, page 136.

### To what is the Word of God likened?

There are seven metaphors used to describe the Word of God. It is likened to a *lamp* that sheds light upon our pathway and destiny. (Psa. 119:105.) It is likened to *milk* and *meat* whereby both infants and those older in faith may grow to mature Christian experience. (1 Peter 2:2; Heb. 5:13, 14.) It is likened to *bread* by which the soul is nourished and strengthened. (John 6:27, 35.) It is likened to a *mirror* wherein we see ourselves as God sees us. (James 1:22-25.) It is likened to a *hammer* which breaks upon stubborn wills and hardened hearts. (Jer. 23:29.) It is likened to a *sword* to distinguish between the good and the evil, between the desires of the mind and the aspirations of the spirit. (Heb. 4:12.) It is likened to fertile *seed* which germinates in the heart of the sinner and produces a divine nature. (1 Peter 1:23; 2 Peter 1:4.)

### To gain the greatest help from the Scriptures, how should we treat them?

"Seek ye out of the book of the Lord, and read." Isa. 34:16. "Whom shall He teach knowledge? and whom shall He make to understand doctrine? . . . For precept must be upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little and there a little." Isa. 28:9, 10. "Consider what I say; and the Lord give thee understanding in all things." 2 Tim. 2:7.

It was Bacon who said that "some books were to be read" and a select few were to be "marked, learned, and inwardly digested." This is pre-eminently true of the Holy Scriptures.

### What good example did Jeremiah leave?

"Thy words were found, and I did eat them; and Thy Word was unto me the joy and rejoicing of mine heart." Jer. 15:16.

### What will come to the diligent and obedient student of the Word?

"So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God." Rom. 10:17.

### What precious assurance may be ours as we build on this Word?

"But the word of the Lord endureth for ever. And this is the Word which by the Gospel is preached unto you." 1 Peter 1:25.

"The Hebrew Scriptures I regard as the fountain from which we draw all we know of the world

around us, and of our own character and destiny. . . . We are indebted . . . for the most important blessings and refinements of civilized life, and for all well-grounded hopes of immortal bliss beyond the grave."—*Daniel Webster*.

## It's All a Hoax!

(Continued from page 5.)

tionist. Thus it is that believers in the Bible story of Genesis, chapter one, which attributes all existence to God who made the world and its contents in six days, and who instituted the weekly Sabbath as a perpetual reminder of His creative work, are regarded as irrational die-hards or intellectual weaklings.

### Evolution's Widespread Influence

Little would be said of the controversy between creationists and evolutionists—indeed, perhaps there would be no real controversy at all—if all that were involved were merely a matter of beginnings. The fact is that our whole attitude to life generally, to politics, to religion, to the future, and to our fellow beings, is moulded by what we believe concerning life's beginnings. The logical end of evolution is to deprive us of God, of the Bible, of hope for the future. It destroys the sense of sin, makes irrelevant and meaningless the thought of personal accountability before God's judgment seat; and it substitutes the "survival of the fittest" philosophy, with all the selfishness, ruthlessness, and disregard for human life that that implies, for the practice of brotherly love and unselfish regard for others that characterizes the true creationist who believes himself answerable to a divine Creator.

The bursting of the Piltdown bubble is surely symbolic of the time described by God in His Word, when "the wisdom of their wise men shall perish, and the understanding of their prudent men shall be hid." Isa. 29:14. It is also a striking evidence of the truth of Paul's description of those who reject the creation story. Of them he wrote: "Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools." Rom. 1:22.

As never before, the message of Revelation 14:7 needs to be proclaimed with clarion tones: "Fear God, and give glory to Him; for the hour of His judgment is come: and worship Him that made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and the fountains of waters."

# THE CHILDREN'S



# Pages

## Peter's New Year

By P. Burnell

PETER lived with his mother in a lovely old-world cottage in one of the prettiest of villages. She was a widow, for Peter's father had died three years before.

They were very poor now, and his mother had a big struggle to keep Peter at the grammar school in the big town two miles away. But she worked hard, and did a few extra sewing jobs to make ends meet. With the garden produce and the eggs from a few hens they were just about able to manage.

Peter was growing fast. Already he was an inch taller than his mother, and on his next birthday he would be thirteen. That would be on January 8th.

He felt he was growing up and would soon be a man—so he wanted long trousers! He told

### New Year Resolutions

A lovely fresh new year has come.

And I resolve to be  
Throughout its days the sort of  
child  
The Lord expects of me.

I'll act unselfishly, be kind,  
Obedient, and good,  
I'll help my mother, smile a lot,  
And do but things I should.

In everything I think and do,  
In everything I say,  
I'll kneel in reverence and ask  
The Lord to lead the way.

Carmen Matone.

his mother that the other boys in his form wore flannel trousers, and he wanted to be like them.

Unfortunately, he hadn't yet learned to think much about the cost of things. He still believed that if he worried his mother enough, he would get what he wanted.

To tell you the truth, Peter wasn't always a good boy. He was thoughtless, he wasted his time at school, his reports were disappointing, and at home he was lazy. When he did agree to help in the garden it was with a grumble, and he left his mother to chop the sticks and carry the heavy buckets of coal.

Every night she knelt by her bedside and prayed for Peter. She loved him very dearly and was anxious about him because he was so careless. She asked Jesus to make him the sort of boy she knew he could be. She prayed hard that the change would come about in the New Year.

One night during supper—it was just after Christmas—Peter's mother spoke to him about New Year resolutions. She told him she hoped he would make some. If he did, she would help him to keep them—and she was certain Jesus would!

But Peter didn't seem to be taking much notice, and that made his mother very sad. He

# LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE



See how nicely you can paint this picture and send it with your name, age, and address to Auntie Margaret, The Stanborough Press Ltd., Watford, Herts., not later than January 21st. In case Our Times arrives late, still send your entry. All attempts will be considered.

saw that her eyes glistened with tears, and he understood why. But, somehow, he didn't feel at all like saying anything. Yet he soon found there was a lump in his throat which stopped him from speaking. He knew he might cry if he tried to say anything, and now that he was nearly thirteen that would be a babyish thing to do.

On New Year's Day Peter woke early, but even then the sun was up before him. It shone through the frosty window panes into his bedroom. One beam of light fell on his new calendar, and he noticed some words underneath the date. He couldn't take his eyes off them. They seemed to be meant for him:

**THIS IS A NEW YEAR.  
MAKE IT NEW AND NOT  
MERELY ANOTHER YEAR.**

Peter lay in bed listening to the church bells ringing, but the words on his calendar kept running through his mind. Then, suddenly, he sprang out of bed, dressed at top speed, rushed into the bathroom, dashed cold water into his face, and all the time he was repeating over and over again to himself: "I will make this year a NEW YEAR."

Back in his bedroom Peter started his New Year by saying his prayers. He prayed that Jesus would help him. He wanted to make every day a *new* day. He really meant it, as well!

My word! What a difference Peter's new beginning made to his mother. Never had she been so happy on New Year's Day. He chopped the sticks, fetched the coal, lit the fire, and even cleaned his own shoes—a thing he had never done before! And he was so cheerful about it all! He whistled as he worked. This was, indeed, an entirely new Peter.

After the holidays, when school commenced again, his teachers soon discovered a different Peter. No larking about and idling his time away. He read his books and learned his lessons.

On the sports field and in the gym he showed what he could do when he tried. On the first page of each of his exercise books Peter copied the words from his calendar: **THIS IS A NEW YEAR. MAKE IT NEW. . .**

And he kept it up!

His next school report was excellent. He had jumped twenty places. He was chosen to play soccer for his house, and was marked down as a likely outside-right for his school when he was older. At home his mother never again had to chop sticks or dig in the garden. Peter did all these jobs for her now. And what is more—he went to church regularly. He never thought of missing! All through the year he kept his resolutions. He was often tempted to go back to his old, careless ways, of course, but he won through. The result was that he was much happier himself, and his mother was both radiantly happy and very proud of her Peter.

You know, it can be like that with all of us if we are determined and if we trust Jesus to help us.

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## Your Letter

My Dear Sunbeams,

WHAT a fine picture we have to start the New Year with! Colour it brightly, and be sure to carry out the good advice it gives.

A missionary on horseback was travelling one stormy night in the mountains of Peru. The clouds were so thick, the rain so heavy, and the wind so strong, that in the darkness he lost his way. He hoped that the horse would find the way by instinct. He prayed to God for help, and as he did so, a sudden lightning flash lit the sky. The bright flash showed he was on the very edge of a precipice, and so saved his life.

As Sunbeams, by shining brightly, we can save others from falling. They will thank us when we all get to heaven.

Yours affectionately,

AUNTIE MARGARET.

## A Shining Light

I WOULD not give much for your religion unless it can be seen. Lamps do not talk; but they do shine. A lighthouse sounds no drum, it beats no gong; and yet far over the waters its friendly spark is seen by the mariner. So let your activities shine out in your religion.—*Spurgeon.*

### Results of Competition No. 23

*Prize-winners.*—Ann Makepeace, 69 Bushey Court, Raynes Park, S.W. 20. Age 10; Gillian M. Brown, 26 Pilkington Avenue, Newcastle, Staffs. Age 9.

*Honourable Mention.*—Jilda Sleeman (Torquay); Marion Paget (Wokingham); Miriam Harris (Cambridge); Pearl Smith (Raynes Park); Eleonora Baron (Accrington); Samuel Topping (Antrim); Antony Peart (Gloucester); Siegfried Baron (Accrington); Ruth Campion (Torquay); Michael Thompson (Watford); May Evans (Cardiff); Ann Culbert (Merton Abbey); Alan Bowns (Stroud); John Govier (Shepton Mallet); Richard Payne (Woodmancote); Ruth Price (Wokingham); Vivien Ellis (Chelmsford); Cynthia Handysides (Reading); Barry Cooper (Cardiff); Heather Payne (Woodmancote).

*Those who tried hard.*—Jill Richards (Sutton Coldfield); Muriel Forder (Norwich); Lydia Harris (Cambridge); Sheila Roberts (Newport); Doreen Pearce (Tottenham); Delma Jones (Swansea); George Mayers (Skewen); Ronald Grant (Edinburgh); Philip Charlton (Southsea); Jacqueline Glasby (Coventry); Valerie Davies (Sussex); Charles McGill (Rickmansworth); Alan Kesson (Aberdeen); David Hocking (Liskeard); Barry Crocker (Watford); Kathleen Umpleby (Malton); Patricia Lavin (Beeston); Elizabeth Kirkwood (Cottingham); Hazel Harris (Cambridge); Gertrude Lurnock (Rickmansworth); Edith Leishman (Stirlingshire); Nigel Payne (Woodmancote); Irene Piper (Smethwick); Terry Mugridge (Radford, Coventry); Jeffrey Garrett (Norwich); Margaret Dodds (Kendal); David Barnett (Lozells); Robert Tait (Norwood); Roger Sleeman (Torquay); Carole Westwood (Watford); Rosemary Barker (Norwich); Jill Plummer (Coventry); Alan Cunningham (Edinburgh); Margaret Johnson (Rochester); Pauline Freeman (Cardiff); Patricia Glover (Burton); Amy Randlesome (Suffolk); Irene Butters (Heaton); Graham Hardy (Derby); Alan Heap (Bolton); Janice Reed (Walthamstow); Leslie Hardy (Derby); David Yates (Preston); Christine Smith (Raynes Park); Anne Miles (Kent); Margaret Peart (Cheltenham); Lucille Hamblin (Watford); Jimmy Fullerton (Lerwick).

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# STRAWS IN THE WIND



## Atomic Realities

⊕ "Atomic bombs today," asserted President Eisenhower in his recent address to the United Nations General Assembly, "are more than twenty-five times as powerful as the weapons with which the atomic age dawned, while hydrogen weapons are in the ranges of millions of tons of TNT equivalent. Today, the United States' stock-pile of atomic weapons, which, of course, increases daily, exceeds by many times the explosive equivalent of the total of all bombs and all shells that came from every plane and every gun in every theatre of war through all the years of World War II."

## Another Hoax

⊕ Herbert Maryon, at a meeting of the Society of Antiquaries in London, declared that the Colossus of Rhodes, regarded as one of the wonders of the ancient world, was a hollow sham. It could not have straddled the harbour for it was only 120 feet high and it was not cast in one piece but was made of bronze sheeting no thicker than a penny.

## Fateful Moment

⊕ "There has arrived a moment pregnant with fate," asserted Dr. Adenauer during his latest visit to Paris. The peoples of the Western European states "must now choose; either to join in an integrated Europe and thereby save their freedom, or to remain in isolation and to become—the

one today, the other tomorrow—Russian satellite states."

## "Miracle" Australian Oilfield

⊕ Oilmen the world over are awaiting with the greatest interest further news of the first oil "strike" on Australia's desolate west coast. The initial flow of twenty-three barrels an hour is

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## A New Year Resolve

I will use kind words at morning,  
noon, and night.  
I will speak kind words though  
days be dark or bright.  
I will think kind thoughts and  
help others banish fear.  
I will do a kind deed every day  
throughout the year.

Dorothy C. Retsloff.

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regarded as almost certain evidence of a large oilfield.

## Round the World in Ninety Hours

⊕ Jules Verne's famous fictional journey round the world in "eighty days" pales into insignificance beside the travel record established by Pamela Martin, who recently circled the world in commercial airline planes in ninety hours, fifty-nine minutes.

This was more than eight hours better than the previous best

## Eyes on South-East Asia

⊕ Explaining China's aggression in South-east Asia, Joseph Alsop in the *New York Herald Tribune* says: "South-east Asia has everything that China needs. The rice, the rubber, the minerals, timber, and petroleum of Indo-China, Burma, Siam, and Malay must gleam before the eyes of the Peking government as the golden solution."

## Exalt the Commandments

⊕ Speaking at the 150th anniversary of the National Sunday School Union, Sir Donald Finmore deplored the modern neglect of the Bible. He said he "would like to see in every school and Sunday school the Ten Commandments printed or painted and set up in a prominent place. No boy or girl should leave school without knowing these commandments which are the very basis of the morality of this nation."

## Missing Age-Group

⊕ "There are to be found in church congregations at the present time, young people in increasing numbers, and also older people," declared the Bishop of Rochester recently. "But the thirty to fifty age-groups are noticeably missing. It is from the often respectable homes of these non-worshippers that there issue the young gangsters and the young drifters."

