

Signs of the Times

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Telegraph and Postal Communication in India



A Network of Communicating Wires—
Postal Service Carried Even into the
Jungles—Remarkable Proficiency of Car-
riers—Find You Wherever You Are—
Facilities for the Messengers of His Coming
By G. W. PETTIT



SECTION OF RAILWAY THROUGH JUNGLE IN INDIA. NOTE THE NUMEROUS TELEGRAPH WIRES ON THE SIDE.

LAST week Elder Pettit told of the network of railways that thread the great land of India. The whole country is brought into close intercommunication. His article this week, on the efficient telegraph and postal system, supplements what was said in the last issue, and helps to emphasize the transforming and civilizing work that is in progress. What a significant preparation for the world-embracing message of the Coming One!

EDITOR.

THE use of the modern mail and telegraph systems has long been in vogue in India, but they are rapidly extending to the remotest parts of the country. Not only are the mails brought to almost every door in the cities and towns, but the delivery extends even to the jungle.

POSTAL SERVICE EVEN TO THE JUNGLES

When we consider that by far the larger part of the India population are wholly illiterate, there can not be any doubt that, on the whole, the business of this department of government is systematically and carefully handled. It is estimated that only about seven per cent of India's 317,000,000 souls can either read or write.

Some facts relative to the postal system in India will serve to show how successfully the work is carried on in spite of the fact that ninety-three per cent of the population can neither read nor write. During the year 1913, there were handled and delivered by the postal authorities 1,014,000,000 articles of mail. This included papers, letters, post-cards, packages, etc. Parcel-post, which is well established in the empire, extends to even the most isolated districts of the jungle. One may send by parcel-post anything from a large trunk to a paper of pins. The rates are very reasonable.

PHENOMENAL GROWTH

During the years 1879 and 1880 there were sent out 140,000,000 letters and less than 12,000,000 newspapers. The growth is shown when we compare this with the work done in 1913, when there were delivered by the postmen 890,000,000 letters and 60,000,000 newspapers. These figures strikingly testify to the comprehensiveness of its organization and the thoroughness with which the masses have been educated to use the postal service. Rural delivery is effected by means of branch post-offices supplemented by thousands of village postmen, who are practically projecting branch offices, in addition to delivery of mails, paying money-orders, and registering letters, etc.

THE POSTMAN WILL FIND YOU

Many of these men have little education, being scarcely able to read in their own tongue, and can not read a line in English; yet in some way they hunt you up and deliver that letter or paper. We have been in various sections of the empire, but have never had reason to complain of the way these men did their work. After being in the country for a time, one loses all that uneasiness which is felt at first. Out of over two thousand articles, including letters, papers, etc., that have been addressed to us since we have been in India, we do not believe we have lost a total of one half dozen. These government servants seem to be perfectly reliable, and usually are very obliging men.

MONEY AND POSTAL SAVINGS-BANKS

There has been devised an excellent system of postal savings-banks throughout the country, where the native is encouraged to save from his meager earnings. A total of millions of pounds is thus deposited by the people of the country, mostly in small amounts.

We have an excellent system of "collect on delivery," which is very beneficial to the people. Too, we find that in our literature work we can make use of this to a great extent. One copy of a periodical is sent collect on delivery; and if the person to whom it is sent desires the paper for the year, he turns in to the postman the amount to cover the same, and this is returned to the office. The money sent by money-order is delivered to one's door, never in the shape of a money-order, but in cash.

I have been twenty-five miles away from the railway, out in the jungle, and in need of money, and have gone to the jungle post-office and sent a wire for money, and in a little while the money was delivered to my door. But little money is lost in this way, although millions of pounds is thus handled annually.

GOVERNMENT SUPERVISION AND FAST MAIL-TRAINS

The postmaster-general and his staff are able men, and are almost constantly on the road, inspecting, devising new methods, and working to unify the system. He and many of his staff are Europeans, as well as many of those who serve under him in the various presidencies. Each presidency has its postmaster-in-chief.



The postmaster-general and the presidency postmaster-general have very great powers vested in them. They control not only his majesty's mail, but the mail-trains as well. The special mail-trains, though operated by the various railway companies, are under the orders of the government. These trains make close connection with the weekly mail-boats, and leave by order of the presidency postmaster-general. When a mail-boat pulls into port, these special trains stand on the track ready to take the mails in every direction to the ends of the empire. One train will be bound for Madras, or south India, and another for Calcutta, or east coast, and still another for Delhi, the north of India. The railways make all lines clear for these government mail-trains; and as soon as the mails are segregated, the postmaster-general of the presidency is notified, and at his discretion he may send them at once, or for any valid reason, may hold them. Generally they are quickly despatched, and go with mad-dened speed to the end of their line, making only a few stops in their rush to reach their destination. In order to serve the best interests of the people and the government, but few passengers are usually carried on these trains, and those for long distances only.

CHEAP POSTAL RATES

Letters cost one cent for any place within the bounds of the empire. Postal cards as used in America cost one half cent. Other rates are correspondingly cheap. Newspapers, however, are somewhat higher than in America, not

The first telegraph line in operation in India was used in 1851, and consisted of only eighty-two miles. In the year 1852 it was extended so there were 3,050 miles, and in 1857 there were 4,555 miles in use.

Radio telegraphy was first introduced in India by the government in the year 1905. It has been now extended and perfected so there are eight principal stations where messages may be sent to sea or over the mainland by private companies or individuals.

LOW RATES OF TELEGRAPH SERVICE

Distance does not increase the cost of telegrams in India. It is no more expense to send a message for a distance of 2,000 miles, than for one mile, just so long as it goes anywhere within the borders of Hindustan. The minimum rate is twelve words for twelve cents, to be sent to any part of the country. This, too, includes delivery within a radius of a few miles of the station to which the message is sent. Thus it will be observed that the rates have been reduced to

this land at but little cost, and gospel literature has a very important part to play in reaching the masses in this land. Too, cable-grams may be sent from any part of the empire to England at very moderate rates.

While these things are much to the commercial world, no one so much appreciates the blessings that come through these agencies as does the missionary for Christ. When used with consecrated hearts, they help to bring about that glad day when Christ will return to reap the harvest of the earth.

"And I saw another angel flying in mid-heaven, having eternal good tidings to proclaim unto them that dwell on the earth, and unto every nation and tribe and tongue and people; and he saith with a great voice, Fear God, and give Him glory; for the hour of



POST-OFFICE AT RANIKHETT, INDIA, COVERED WITH SNOW



GENERAL POST-OFFICE AT CALCUTTA, INDIA

the lowest figure at which good service can be maintained. Nearly all telegraph lines are owned by the government, therefore there is no competition.

FOR THE SERVICE OF THE MISSIONARY

The value of these conveniences in the promulgation of the gospel of Christ to all India can not be fully estimated. A missionary can send a letter to a friend in the empire or across the waters with but little fear of loss. Letters not only help to keep the missionaries in isolated places of courage, but as well enable them to keep in touch with those for whom they have been laboring. In sickness or emergency, it often happens that the telegraph service of India is used to bring relief. When a worker has worked beyond his strength, in this trying field, and is compelled to make a change to save his life, the telegraph service, which is so cheap, is of vast importance, as another may be called to take the place, and thus the work moves on under such circumstances with but little interruption.

GOD LEADING THE WAY

Surely the hand of God has gone before us and provided these things for the accomplishing of a speedy work in India. They enable us to send literature to the ends of



POST-OFFICE AT LUCKNOW, INDIA

His Judgment is come: and worship Him that made the heaven and the earth and sea and fountains of waters." Rev. 14: 6, 7.

"I saw, and behold, a white cloud; and on the cloud I saw one sitting like unto a son of man, having on his head a golden crown, and in his hand a sharp sickle. And another angel came out from the temple, crying with a great voice to him that sat on the cloud, Send forth thy sickle and reap; for the hour to reap is come; for the harvest of the earth is ripe. And he that sat on the cloud cast his sickle upon the earth; and the earth was reaped. And another angel came out from the temple which is in heaven, he also having a sharp sickle. And another angel came out from the altar, he that hath power over fire; and he called with a great voice to him that had the sharp sickle, saying, Send forth thy sharp sickle, and gather the clusters of the vine of the earth; for her grapes are fully ripe." Verses 14-18.

That day hastes greatly, and these things both serve as a sign of it and help to carry the good news of the coming Redeemer. The writer looks forward to that day, believing that from India will come forth a large number to stand with the faithful of all the earth on the sea of glass.



God Is Love

HIS character is shown in thought and action. His thought is expressed in action. His action is expressed in His law. His law is love, an expression of His character. The climax of His character is rest—Sabbath.

M. A. H.

Successful Training of Children

COMRADESHIP BETWEEN FATHER, MOTHER, AND CHILDREN—CHEERFULNESS IN THE HOME
THE HOUR OF WORSHIP

By Mrs. E. G. White

THE home should be to the children the most attractive place in the world, and the mother's presence should be its greatest attraction. Children have sensitive, loving natures. They are easily pleased, and easily made unhappy. By gentle discipline, in loving words and acts, mothers may bind their children to their hearts.

REGARD THEIR SENSITIVE FEELINGS

Young children love companionship, and can seldom enjoy themselves alone. They yearn for sympathy and tenderness. That which they enjoy, they think will please mother also; and it is natural for them to go to her with their little joys and sorrows. The mother should not wound their sensitive hearts by treating with indifference matters that, though trifling to her, are of great importance to them. Her sympathy and approval are precious. An approving glance, a word of encouragement or commendation, will be like sunshine in their hearts, often making the whole day happy.

Instead of sending her children from her, that she may not be annoyed by their noise or troubled by their little wants, let the mother plan amusement or light work to employ the active hands and minds.

DIRECT THEIR AMUSEMENTS AND EMPLOYMENTS

By entering into their feelings, and directing their amusements and employments, the mother will gain the confidence of her children, and she can the more effectually correct wrong habits, or check the manifestations of selfishness or passion. A word of caution or reproof spoken at the right time will be of great value. By patient, watchful love, she can turn the minds of the children in the right direction, cultivating in them beautiful and attractive traits of character.

Mothers should guard against training their children to be dependent and self-absorbed. Never lead them to think that they are the center, and that everything must revolve around them. Some parents give much time and attention to amusing their children, but children should be trained to amuse themselves, to exercise their own ingenuity and skill. Thus they will learn to be content with very simple pleasures. They should be taught to bear bravely their little disappointments and trials. Instead of calling attention to every trifling pain or hurt, divert their minds, teach them to pass lightly over little annoyances and discomforts. Study to suggest ways by which the children may learn to be thoughtful for others.

PATIENTLY INSTRUCT THEM

But let not the children be neglected. Burdened with many cares, mothers sometimes feel that they can not take time patiently to instruct their little ones, and give them love and sympathy. But they should remember that if the children do not find in their parents and their home that which will satisfy their



desire for sympathy and companionship, they will look to other sources, where both mind and character may be endangered.

For lack of time and thought, many a mother refuses her children some innocent pleasure, while busy fingers and weary eyes are diligently engaged on work designed only for adornment, something that, at best, will serve only to encourage vanity and extravagance in their young hearts. As the children approach manhood and womanhood, these lessons bear fruit in pride and moral worthlessness. The mother grieves over her children's faults, but does not realize that the harvest she is reaping is from seed which she herself planted.

BE UNIFORM IN TREATMENT

Some mothers are not uniform in the treatment of their children. At times they indulge them to their injury, and again they refuse some innocent gratification that would make the childish heart very happy. In this they do not imitate Christ. He loved the children. He comprehended their feelings, and sympathized with them in their pleasures and their trials.

THE FATHER'S RESPONSIBILITY

The husband and father is the head of the household. The wife looks to him for love and sympathy, and for aid in the training of the children; and this is right. The children are his as well as hers, and he is equally interested in their welfare. The children look to the father for support and guidance. He needs to have a right conception of life and of the influences and associations that should surround his family. Above all, he should be controlled by the love and fear of God and by the teach-

ing of His word, that he may guide the feet of his children in the right way.

The father is the lawmaker of the household; and, like Abraham, he should make the law of God the rule of his home. God said of Abraham, "I know him, that he will command his children and his household." There would be no sinful neglect to restrain evil, no weak, unwise, indulgent favoritism; no yielding of his conviction of duty to the claims of mistaken affection. Abraham would not only give right instruction, but he would maintain the authority of just and righteous laws. God has given rules for our guidance. Children should not be left to wander away from the safe path marked out in God's word, into ways leading to danger, which are open on every side. Kindly, but firmly, with persevering, prayerful effort, their wrong desires should be restrained, their inclinations denied.

The father should enforce in his family the sterner virtues,—energy, integrity, honesty, patience, courage, diligence, and practical usefulness. And what he requires of his children he himself should practise, illustrating these virtues in his own manly bearing.

COMBINE AFFECTION WITH AUTHORITY

But, fathers, do not discourage your children. Combine affection with authority, kindness and sympathy with firm restraint. Give some of your leisure hours to your children. Become acquainted with them. Associate with them in their work and in their sports, and win their confidence. Cultivate friendship with them, especially with your sons. In this way you will be a strong influence for good.

The father should do his part toward making home happy. Whatever his cares and business perplexities, they should not be permitted to overshadow his family. He should enter his home with smiles and pleasant words.

FAMILY WORSHIP IMPORTANT

In a sense the father is the priest of the household, laying upon the family altar the morning and evening sacrifice. But the wife and the children should unite in prayer, and join in the song of praise. In the morning, before he leaves home for his daily labor, let the father gather his children about him, and, bowing before God, commit them to the care of the Father in heaven. When the cares of the day are past, let the family unite in offering grateful prayer and raising the song of praise, in acknowledgment of divine care during the day.

Fathers and mothers, however pressing your business, do not fail to gather your family around God's altar. Ask for the guardianship of holy angels in your home. Remember that your dear ones are exposed to temptations. Daily annoyances beset the path of young and old. Those who would live patient, loving, cheerful lives must pray.

(Continued on page 7)

FOR some years in the past, the talk of "peace and safety" has been exceedingly popular, and the most optimistic ideas have been heralded over the earth and very generally accepted. We have been assured that war was a thing of the past; that arbitration had taken its place; that "nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more."

The following, taken from an editorial in *Shields' Magazine* of October, 1909, is a very fair specimen of the views entertained and promulgated of late:

"NO MORE WAR?"

"There is no further doubt of it, no way of disguising the fact. The air-ship has put the battle-ship out of business. The great coast defense guns, the bristling field guns, the thousands of infantry and cavalry small arms, and the hundreds of tons of ammunition stored at the various army posts and arsenals, are simply so much junk. The air-ship, with its possible cargo of dynamite, has made playthings of the world's great navies and fortifications. A one hundred pound can of dynamite, dropped from the clouds, would destroy any Dreadnought ever built or dreamed of, or would wipe a whole regiment of infantry or cavalry off the roster. Armies and navies will be kept hereafter merely for centennials, world's fairs, and for social or official intercourse between nations. *War is a thing of the past.* Verily, the sword shall be turned into the plowshare, and the rifle into the picket fence."

The fact that every nation has been feverishly preparing for bloody strife did not in the least deter prophets of peace from voicing loud assurances that war would come no more, forgetting the Scripture warning that "when they shall say, Peace and safety; then sudden destruction cometh upon them."

THE CRASH WAS PREDICTED

Some thoughtful minds, however, were able to discern the true situation, and frankly acknowledged their sentiments. As long ago as 1897, Julian Hawthorne, writing in *Collier's Weekly* concerning an eruption in the Austrian parliament, said:

"You can not calm the Austrian parliament by remedying the particular trumpery abuses which have exploded there, but only by relieving Europe at large of the political and social evils that have been steadily accumulating for a thousand years past. The pressure announces itself in a hundred different ways, but all of them mean the same thing. It is the irrepressible revolt of man against its oppressors, human and statutory. . . . Sometimes it wears the guise of a strike, sometimes an epidemic of suicides, sometimes of a financial panic. The wise men get together and stop up the holes, and the thing breaks forth in another spot. More and more distinctly every day and year we perceive that good and evil are definitely arraying themselves against each other, and that the battle of Armageddon must come. It is no idle myth of ecclesiastical dogma. This is the hour of compromises and makeshifts, but it is the eleventh hour; the crash can not be much longer delayed."

Just now we are confronted with a state of affairs in Europe that is leading men in all walks of life to inquire, "Is this Armageddon?"

IS ARMAGEDDON IN PROGRESS?

To answer this question intelligently, we must consider what the Bible says on the subject. The term "Armageddon" is used

Has Armageddon Truly Come?

The Present War in the Wrong Locality — The Scenes Ahead of Us to Be Turmoil and Strife, and Not Peace — Armageddon Not Far Hence — The Close of Probation and the Second Coming of Christ

By M. N. CAMPBELL



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THE ALGERIAN "FIRE-EATERS" OF THE FRENCH ARMY, LEAVING PARIS FOR THE BATTLE-FIELD

but once in the Scriptures, and is there applied to the place where the armies of the world will assemble just before the struggle described as the "battle of the great day of God Almighty."

Armageddon is located about fifty-five miles north of Jerusalem, and includes within its limits the extended plain of Esdraelon between Mount Carmel and Mount Tabor. The soil of this plain has been stained for ages with the blood of contending armies; and here, where Israelite and Philistine, Egyptian and Assyrian, Roman and Greek, Saracen and Crusader, have fought their sanguinary battles, the armies of the east and the west will meet to fight the last great battle of earth's history. The battle is evidently transferred from Armageddon to Jerusalem. Notice the following on this point:

"Proclaim ye this among the Gentiles; Prepare war, wake up the mighty men, let all the men of war draw near; let them come up: beat your plowshares into swords, and your pruning-hooks into spears: let the weak say, I am strong. Assemble yourselves, and come, all ye heathen, and gather yourselves together round about: thither cause Thy mighty ones to come down, O Lord. Let the heathen be wakened, and come up to the valley of Jehoshaphat: for there will I sit to judge all the heathen round about. Put ye in the sickle, for the harvest is ripe: come, get you down; for the press is full, the fats overflow; for their wickedness is great. Multitudes, multitudes in the valley of decision: for the day of the Lord is near in the valley of decision." Joel 3: 9-14.

The valley of Jehoshaphat is just outside of Jerusalem, and here the armed hosts of the nations march from Armageddon to fight the last of all battles.

DAYS OF WAR AND NOT OF PEACE

In this connection it might be well to call attention to the fact that according to the proclamation of the Lord, the last days are to be days of war, bloodshed, and destruction, instead of days of peace and prosperity, as some who misunderstand the prophecies assert. In Isa. 2: 4 are presented the things that "many people shall go and say" in the last days:

"And He shall judge among the nations, and shall rebuke many people: and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning-hooks: nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more."

This, the statement of "many people" (see verse 3), is the very reverse of what God proclaims. See Joel 3: 9 and onward. In late years this prophecy has been fulfilled in the general teaching of "peace and safety."

The battle of Armageddon will take place during the outpouring of the sixth plague, and the circumstances involved are outlined in Rev. 16: 12-16:

"And the sixth angel poured out his vial upon the great river Euphrates; and the water thereof was dried up, that the way of the kings of the east might be prepared. And I saw three unclean spirits like frogs come out of the mouth of the dragon, and out of the mouth of the beast, and out of the mouth of the false prophet. For they are the spirits of devils, working miracles, which go forth unto the kings of the earth and of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty. Behold, I



GERMAN BIG GUN IN TRANSIT

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This powerful weapon, which has done such terrible execution upon the strong forts in Belgium, is in two sections, and drawn by a heavy motor truck. When it is placed for action, the gun is made to connect with the recoil mechanism on the wagon next the motor.

come as a thief. Blessed is he that watcheth, and keepeth his garments, lest he walk naked, and they see his shame. And He gathered them together into a place called in the Hebrew tongue Armageddon."

THE DOOR OF MERCY WILL BE CLOSED

The seven last plagues are poured out just before Christ returns. The door of mercy is closed to sinners before the plagues begin to fall, for the plagues are declared to be the wrath of God poured out "without mixture into the cup of His indignation." In all previous manifestations of God's wrath, it has been mixed with mercy; but the pouring out of the plagues is "without mixture." The decree has evidently been issued: "He that is unjust, let him be unjust still: . . . and he that is holy, let him be holy still." Rev. 22:11.

The seven last plagues consist of severe judgments falling on the finally impenitent. The first is a plague of boils; the second falls on the sea, turning it into a poisonous fluid; the third turns the fresh water into blood; the fourth causes the sun to scorch men with fire; the fifth is a special plague against the Roman apostasy; and the sixth marks the drying up of the Euphrates—a symbolic expression referring to the final destruction of the Turkish dominions—and the gathering of the nations at Armageddon. Under the seventh and last plague, a terrible earthquake shakes the earth, tremendous hailstones fall, and the Lord Jesus returns to the earth, putting an end to the battle and to all else of an earthly nature.

A STRANGE SPIRIT OF WAR LUST

This in brief gives the chronology of the battle of Armageddon. Before this battle is fought, the spirits of devils go out and stir the nations to war. Those spirits have evidently already begun their work. Recent years have witnessed an amazing change on the earth. The most peacefully disposed nations have been seized with a strange spirit of war lust. Untold treasures are sacrificed on the altar of the war Moloch in the way of war preparations.

Sir Edward Grey, speaking of the war spirit in England, said: "I do not say that we are peculiar in this respect at this moment. It is really as if in the atmosphere of the world there were some mischievous influence at work which troubles and excites every part of it."

This "mischievous influence" of which Sir Edward Grey speaks is none else than the "spirits of devils" referred to in Rev. 16:14. A writer in the *Independent* says: "Whatever causes of strife may have been lurking

in the minds of the people of Europe, they could not have massed and exploded in this demoniac war without the agency of the head devils."

The "Euphrates" is also "drying up." This evidently refers to the gradual dismemberment of the Turkish empire, ending in its total extinction under the sixth plague. That empire has had one section after another taken from it, until it now stands shorn of Egypt, Rumania, Servia, Bulgaria, Greece, Albania, Crete, and other important provinces. In Europe but little has been left to the Turk as a result of this "drying up" process. The development of the Turkish question is the main issue that leads up to Armageddon.

THE KING OF THE NORTH

In the eleventh chapter of Daniel this same power is brought to view as the "king of the north." Adam Clarke, the eminent Methodist commentator, in his comments on Dan. 11:44, written in 1825, stated that "it may mean that the Persians on the east and the Russians on the north will at some time greatly embarrass the Ottoman government."

This prediction was fulfilled in the Crimean War of 1853-1856, those two powers instigating that conflict. The next verses, Dan. 11:45 and 12:1, 2, continue the prophecy concerning Turkey:

"And he shall plant the tabernacle of his palace between the seas in the glorious holy mountain; yet he shall come to his end, and none shall help him. And at that time shall Michael stand up, the great Prince which standeth for the children of thy people: and there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation even to that same time: and at that time thy people shall be delivered, every one that shall be found written in the book. And many of them that sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt."

This remarkable prophecy is now in process of fulfilment, and probably the present convulsion in Europe will greatly hasten its completion.

TO MOVE TO JERUSALEM

The texts just quoted indicate that the Turk will move his capital from its present location in Constantinople to Jerusalem, which is "between the seas in the glorious holy mountain." It is an interesting fact that the Turks, in anticipation of their early expulsion from Europe, are already looking toward Jerusalem as their future capital.

But the prophet Daniel points to tremendous events that hinge on the establishment of the Turkish capital at Jerusalem.

He makes that event the commencement of the terrible "time of trouble" in which the seven last plagues are poured out and the sinfulness of all the ages develops its horrid harvest of misery and wo. Immediately following this time of trouble, according to this prophecy, comes the resurrection of the dead, the close of this dispensation, and the coming of the King who gathers both living and resurrected saints, and takes them back to heaven to spend the millennium.

INVOLVED IN THIS WAR

The Turkish question, or the Eastern question, as it is commonly called, is involved in the present war. The matter of the ultimate possession of Constantinople was the cause of this outbreak. Russia saw in Austria's declaration of war on Servia a move to subjugate all the Balkan peninsula, and with it Constantinople. Russia has plans of her own in that direction, and as a means of blocking the progress of the Teutons toward Constantinople, declared war.

Professor Albert Bushnell Hart, of Harvard University, says: "In case of victory, the Russians will certainly demand Constantinople, which means that the Turk will be finally shoved out of Europe. England and France will probably favor that solution of the near Eastern question."

Napoleon Bonaparte, before his death on St. Helena, ventured the prediction that Russia would yet become a great naval power and come into possession of Constantinople, and added, "Then God only knows what will happen." Kossuth said, "In Turkey will be decided the fate of the world."

THE GREAT CLIMAX

These quotations coincide exactly with the prophecies of God's word. It is evident that these are times of great seriousness. The work of God is nearly finished, and ere-long the gathering of the nations at Armageddon will take place. But a greater gathering than that will occur at the same time. It is described in Matt. 24:30, 31:

"And then shall appear the sign of the Son of man in heaven: and then shall all the tribes of the earth mourn, and they shall see the Son of man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory. And He shall send His angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they shall gather together His elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other."

While the present convulsions among the nations may subside for a time, it will be but a lull in the storm that is to bring on the final world conflagration.

FLOODS, FAMINE, AND UNREST IN CENTRAL CHINA

Heathen Astonishment at Warring "Christian Europe"—Finances Hindering Railway Extensions
Extensive Floods and Famine Following Them

By R. F. COTTRELL

Elder Cottrell, in this short article, gives some interesting glimpses of conditions in the Chinese field, where he is faithfully laboring. It is literally true, as suggested some time ago by one of England's great leaders, that "it is as though the world were indulging in a fit of political alcoholism." In view of these world-wide conditions, how cheering is the "blessed hope" to which reference is made at the close of the article! EDITOR.

THE noted White Wolf, who has destroyed so many towns and cities during the past year in China, is now reported to have been killed; while others affirm that he died of dysentery, was buried, and was afterward exhumed and beheaded. At any rate, the soldiers who secured his head, claimed

ple in central China, as well as those in other parts of the country, have their eyes turned toward Tsingtao; for no one is quite sure as to the designs of Japan, and the consequences of this move on her part.

BOTH DROUGHT AND FLOOD

The present crisis has also crippled the Chinese government financially, and the construction of the Hankow-Szechuen and the Hankow-Canton railway is abandoned for the present.

While in some parts of the country there has been excessive drought this season, so

back of the chapel went down, and with it all their earthly belongings. But they were most grateful to God that their lives were preserved.

In that city of some forty thousand inhabitants, two thirds of the houses were destroyed. The photographs shown herewith were taken at or near this place. It will be months before the railway bridges can be fully repaired.

ASSISTANCE URGENTLY ASKED

The government has distributed large quantities of rice to those left destitute. Nearly all the missions in the province have given some aid to the famine sufferers. We have been compelled to borrow money from the operating funds of our mission to assist our own people at this time. We trust that gifts from America to a famine relief fund may enable us to replace this loan.

THE CHEERING AND BLESSED HOPE

The signs of our Saviour's return to earth, the omens of that glad event foretold by seers of old, are fast multiplying in the Orient. "Distress of nations with perplexity," which the Lord gave as a sign of His coming, is as truly fulfilled here as elsewhere. But the sorrow and suffering about us increase the intense longing of our hearts for that land of happiness and perfection which our divine Father has promised. Present conditions give fresh impetus to the message of Christ's second coming, and many from this dark land are thus brought to work and pray with us for the speedy consummation of the blessed hope.

NOTE.—Any one desiring to relieve the distress of those suffering people, may send their donations to the treasurer of the Pacific Press Publishing Association, Mountain View, California.

EDITOR.



RAILWAY BRIDGE IN LILING, HUNAN, CHINA, AFTER THE FLOOD IN JULY, 1914

the large reward that had been offered by the government. Whether the *real* White Wolf is dead or only in hiding, is still a mooted question with many.

In the meantime, numerous other bands of outlaws have arisen, and are committing outrages in various parts of the country. As soon as one party has been put down, others seem to spring up to terrify the people and annoy the government. Among these bandits are large numbers of soldiers who were disbanded following the revolution of three years ago.

HEATHEN ASTONISHED

Added to this comes the unrest caused by the great European war. With astonishment the heathen behold the so-called Christian nations rushing at one another with the fury of madmen. Commerce in China is largely at a standstill; and on the east coast there has been the landing of Japanese troops for the conquest of the fortified German colony of Tsingtao. This place was forcibly leased from China in 1898 for a term of ninety-nine years, the pretext being the murder of two German Catholic priests. Therefore the peo-

ple that thousands have been reduced to beggary, in other parts there have been disastrous floods. In Hunan province we had two floods within three weeks. Throughout large sections of the country, the rice crop was entirely destroyed, and hundreds of cities and towns were suddenly made to appear surrounded by lakes and ponds.

In one place where our mission has a church and an outstation, the water rose rapidly during the night. A man who has come from that place tells us that the evangelist and his family retired in the evening as usual, but were soon aroused by the rising of the water. From the bed, they climbed up on tables and boxes, piling things higher and higher as the floods increased. Finally they were compelled to tear a hole through the roof, and climb to the top of the chapel for safety, and there they were when morning dawned.

HOUSE AFTER HOUSE SWEEPED AWAY

It was a time of great anxiety for them. All about were the cries of the helpless and distressed. House after house was swept away. Even their own house at the

The Unsuccessful Salesman

Sought a Paltry Prize — Lost
His Position

By B. M. GRANDY

A SALE was on. Rugs and carpets at reduced prices, and remnants at cost! Every salesman in the great store doing his best, that he might be the winner of a cash prize offered to the one making the largest sales!

One salesman was waiting upon a woman who wanted a piece of carpet of a certain size. A remnant, marked at \$7.25, was shown her. The quality suiting her, she said she could use the piece if it were the needed size. Unwilling to cut the piece, yet fearful of losing a sale, the salesman offered her the entire piece for \$5.35, which was less than the first cost.

Not prepared to take the piece that day, she had it laid aside, promising to call the next day. When she came, another salesman waited upon her. Designating the piece of carpet she wanted, she told of the transaction of the day before. He at once informed her that, according to instructions from the proprietor, no salesman was permitted to make any reductions on the marked price.

The proprietor was called, and after a few inquiries, he indignantly remarked that the too anxious salesman would be summarily discharged.

In his anxiety to win a paltry cash prize

and make a record for himself, the salesman would both rob his employer and cheat his fellow salesmen.

In the great heavenly storehouse, there is a robe of righteousness and a crown of gold for every one who will pay the price. No human being could ever pay the cost, but there was one who could—the Son of God. The only-begotten of the Father could pay the cost with His precious blood. Thus was the cost paid. The beneficiary of this transaction must accept the gift, and besides, add all that he has—his life, his all.

Many eager salesmen are to-day pleading with men to buy of the goods of the heavenly storehouse. Now, as of old, it takes all to buy the robe and the crown. Some, in their eagerness to make a record for themselves, are offering these for less than the marked price. Failing to appreciate the importance of their trust—the infinite value of the goods entrusted to their hands—they cheapen the things of heaven.

Like the dishonest carpet salesman, they thus dishonor their Master, discredit their fellow laborers, and at last fail of the prize, and hear the fateful words, "Depart from Me, ye that work iniquity."

The faithful salesman does not add dishonesty to diligence in the race for the eternal prize.

There are still many souls, amid the teeming millions of earth, who long to reach the high standard that the Infinite demands. These pass in disdain the cheap substitutes that are everywhere offered in place of the true.

Men bearing the title of ministers of God, standing as watchmen on the walls of Zion, can ill afford to preach anything else than the complete gospel of Christ.

Neither prophet, apostle, nor even the Christ would or could annul or change the commands of God. These commands stand "forever and forever." And it was the hypocritical scribes that made them of no effect by their traditions.

Is the gate less strait, or the way less narrow, than it was when the Saviour discoursed on the mount, and led His disciples in their work of winning souls to be robed with His righteousness and crowned with the crown of life?

Should Know the Generation

"WATCH therefore: for ye know not what hour your Lord doth come. But know this, that if the good man of the house had known in what watch the thief would come, he would have watched, and would not have suffered his house to be broken up." Matt. 24:42, 43. All depends upon knowing at what "watch" the Lord will come. They that know the "watch," will watch, that they may stand at His coming.

In Matthew 24, the Lord reveals the various signs that definitely point out the last generation, and compares that generation to the "watch." And though He has not seen fit to reveal the day or the hour, yet He is anxious that His people should know the generation, or "watch."

The day was divided into four watches, "even," "midnight," "cockcrow," and "morning." The time from the first to the second advent of Christ is therefore divided into four watches, as far as the signs given by Jesus in Matthew are concerned: the even

watch, that of the first great sign given in this chapter, the destruction of Jerusalem; the midnight watch, the Dark Ages and the shortening of those days, marked by the darkening of the sun, May 19, 1780; the cock-crow watch, that of the next sign in the heavens, the falling stars, which occurred November 13, 1833; and the last watch, the morning watch, in which we should look for the coming King, when "He shall send His angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they shall gather together His elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other."

We are living in the last watch. Let us remember the admonition of the Master, "When these things begin to come to pass, then look up, and lift up your heads; for your redemption draweth nigh." "I say unto you, . . . Watch." A. S. BOOTH.

Succeeding Under Distressing Conditions

A CAREFUL student of Bible prophecy said, a few years ago: "Fearful tests and trials await the people of God. The spirit of war is stirring the nations from one end of the earth to the other." Truly we can see that that time is already here. Each government desires to have peace, and yet all their ways are causing the reverse. For nearly six thousand years, men have tried by force to reach that goal, and to-day we see they are no nearer it than they were when Cain slew Abel.

But through it all, God is gathering out from every nation a people that will not destroy nor kill their fellow men. Even here in the island of Haiti, our brethren are troubled on every side. They refuse to take arms, believing that their mission is to turn the minds of their fellow men in the direction of saving rather than destroying lives. Because of this, a number of them have been placed in prisons; but even there God is accomplishing a great work through them. There are many people in these prisons, and our brethren have opportunity to speak to them of the love of God, the soon coming of Jesus, and the end of this world and its reign of sin.

Thus while the Lord's work has seemingly been hindered to a great extent, it is growing deeper and stronger than ever before. From reports I have received from different parts of the island, there are over fifty awaiting baptism; and we are sure that after the fiery trial of revolution is over, the church of God will come forth brighter and purer than ever.

We still ask the brethren in the home land to pray for the success of the work here, and we hope that soon we shall all meet, bringing our sheaves with us.

ALBERT F. PRIEGER.

Successful Training of Children

(Continued from page 3)

Only by receiving constant help from God can we gain the victory over self.

CHEERFULNESS, COURTESY, AND LOVE

Home should be a place where cheerfulness, courtesy, and love abide; and where these graces dwell, there will abide happiness and peace. Troubles may invade, but these are the lot of humanity. Let patience, gratitude, and love keep sunshine in the heart, though the day may be ever so cloudy. In such homes angels of God abide.

Let the husband and the wife study each other's happiness, never failing in the small courtesies and little kindly acts that cheer and brighten the life. Perfect confidence should exist between husband and wife. Together they should consider their responsibilities. Together they should work for the highest good of their children. Never should they in the presence of the children criticize each other's plans or question each other's judgment. Let the wife be careful not to make the husband's work for the children more difficult. Let the husband hold up the hands of his wife, giving her wise counsel and loving encouragement.

NO BARRIERS OF COLDNESS

No barrier of coldness and reserve should be allowed to arise between parents and children. Let parents become acquainted with their children, seeking to understand their tastes and dispositions, entering into their feelings, and drawing out what is in their hearts.

Parents, let your children see that you love them, and will do all in your power to make them happy. If you do so, your necessary restrictions will have far greater weight in their young minds. Rule your children with tenderness and compassion, remembering that "their angels do always behold the face of My Father which is in heaven." Matt. 18:10. If you desire the angels to do for your children the work given them of God, cooperate with them by doing your part.

Brought up under the wise and loving guidance of a true home, children will have no desire to wander away in search of pleasure and companionship. Evil will not attract them. The spirit that prevails in the home will mold their characters. They will form habits and principles that will be a strong defense against temptation when they shall leave the home shelter and take their place in the world.

The Way

THE cry of many a heart is:

"Show me the way to that calm, perfect peace
Which springs from an inward consciousness
of right;
To where the conflicts with the flesh shall cease,
And self shall radiate with the Spirit's light.
Though hard the journey and the strife, I pray,
Show me the way."

The way is plainly marked out in God's word. Jesus says, "I am the way." That way is perfect. We are to wait on the Lord, and keep His way, for it is the way of life. It is the way of holiness, the way of God's commandments. There is "a way not cast up." Jer. 18:15. It is the traditions of men. The message for to-day is, "Cast up, cast up the highway; gather out the stones; life up a standard for the people." Isa. 62:10. The standard is God's law. Who will rally around it? Who will gather out the stones of offense, and build up the old waste places? Isa. 58:12, 13. Those who do this, will have great peace. Ps. 119:165.

ELIZA H. MORTON.

BEHOLD, the Lord's hand is not shortened, that it can not save; neither His ear heavy, that it can not hear: but your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid His face from you, that He will not hear.—Isaiah.

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THE WAR GOD

No Civilized Warfare—The Coming of the Prince of Peace
Will End It Forever

AS we read the appalling details of the awful catastrophe of war that daily confronts us in the press, we are reminded of the reply made by a father to his boy who asked, "Pa, what is the difference between a civilized man and a barbarian?" The father answered, "A barbarian is a man who knocks your brains out with a club at arm's length, while a civilized man blows them out a mile away."

NO CIVILIZED WARFARE

The present situation in Europe demonstrates, if any demonstration is needed, that there is no such thing as civilized warfare. War is butchery. It is wholesale murder. It stands for sorrow, suffering, and death. As well talk of a constructive tornado as civilized warfare.

Like some mighty Samson, the war god seems to be at work to pull down the temple of civilization, and turn the clock of progress back into the Dark Ages. Half of the world is convulsed by the earthquake of war. The devastations of fire and sword go on daily. A continent is torn and ruined by this awful Moloch. Through the inventive genius of man, new and tremendous dangers face the dismayed inhabitants in the cataclysm of war. In terror they must flee from their homes in the dead of the night, leaving all they have behind, lest some bomb, spreading ruin and death, is dropped upon their defenseless heads from the sky.

THE IMAGINATION STAGGERED

The nerve-racking terror and the awful catastrophe of ruin caused by all that attends a war of such vast proportions as the present one can only be realized by those who are compelled to face the situation. Human suffering is the inevitable symbol of war. It is sufficient to stagger the imagination, and cause the heart to grow faint. Tens of thousands of men are but the pawn in the game of the nations, to be slaughtered—fed to the cannon—to maintain what is called national honor and commercial supremacy. Many of the sufferers are the widows and orphans who are left to mourn in poverty and unspeakable loneliness as victims of the great military struggle. Poverty, ruin, hunger, and famine are the real members of the alliance.

Then comes the burden of grinding taxation to foot the bills caused by the enormous expenditure of funds necessary to defray the expenses of the bloody contest. What the tremendous total will be, no one can even guess. If the war is much longer continued, it is sure to bring financial disaster, resulting in the obliteration of credit.

War means paralyzed industries and a staggering debt. After the glory of victory and the despair of defeat, will come business depression.

NOT TILL THE PRINCE OF PEACE COMES

And when will war cease?—Never while sin is in the earth. The present death struggle will doubtless end sooner or later, when some nation has won a conclusive victory, or all have worn themselves out. But peace will not be permanent or long continued. Not till the Prince of peace comes, and all the nations are carried away like chaff from the threshing-floor, and the everlasting kingdom of God is ushered in, will there be real peace.

Men may talk of peace, and peace compacts may be negotiated with the nations; and all this is laudable, to be sure. But in the end, the work will come to naught. War will come again. Armageddon is ahead of us, a struggle before which the present contest pales in comparison.

THE HOPE OF THE WORLD

The hope of the world is in the advent of the Prince of peace. And it should encourage our hearts to know that His coming is near, even at the doors. By His advent He will make war to cease to the end of the earth. Glad day!

G. B. T.

SIGNIFICANT APOSTASIES

Eminent Specialists Consulting Spirits—Prophetic Warnings Against It—
What Does It Mean?

THE prophet Isaiah speaks of certain things that were to occur in "the last days," and among these we find the following: "Therefore Thou hast forsaken Thy people the house of Jacob, because they be replenished from the east, and are soothsayers like the Philistines, and they please themselves in the children of strangers." Isa. 2:2, 6.

Current Opinion for August, 1914, contains an excerpt from the pen of an eminent physician, Professor von Schrenk-Notzing, who has written important treatises on criminal psychology, and spent years in psychical research. His words are quoted from the London Chronicle as follows:

REVERTING TO PAGAN NECROMANCY

"We know, from Sir Oliver Lodge's address in Birmingham, that, in the inner circle of scientific research, the occurrence of certain psychic phenomena is so thoroughly admitted that the interpretation of these phenomena has already begun, and that that interpretation is in favor of the conclusion that the dead are communicating with us. A steadily increasing number of books and a daily increasing interest in all forms of occult research show conclusively which way the wind is blowing



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RUSSIA'S "INVINCIBLE" CAVALRY, CROSSING A BROAD PLAIN NEAR THE AUSTRIAN FRONTIER

and what may be expected in the immediate future. *Modern thought is increasingly occupying itself with the 'reconstruction of Christian belief,' and is steadily reverting to pagan necromantic practises.*" Italics ours.

He says further: "It will have to be admitted, therefore, that for the mind which is not hopelessly entangled in the net of conventional or constitutional skepticism and will take the trouble to study the evidence, the entire question as to the reality and objectivity of these mysterious phenomena may now be regarded as settled."

The apostle Paul, in writing to Timothy, says: "Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils; speaking lies in hypocrisy." 1 Tim. 4: 1, 2.

AN UNFAILING SIGN

We are unquestionably in the latter days, and many are departing "from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils." We must confess that much of that which passes for Christianity is undergoing a reconstruction, and is "steadily reverting to pagan necromantic practises." This, however, is but the fulfilment of the prophetic Word, and is one of the unfailing signs of the last days.

"And when they say unto you, 'Inquire of those that have familiar spirits, and of the wizards, that whisper, and that mutter:' should not a people inquire of their God? (should we then) in behalf of the living (inquire) of the dead?" Isa. 8: 20, Leeser translation.

Anciently all practises among God's people such as Professor Schrenk-Notzing mentions were strictly forbidden. "There shall not be found among you any one . . . that useth divination, or an observer of times, or an enchanter, or a witch, or a charmer, or a consulter with familiar spirits, or a wizard, or a necromancer. For all that do these things are an abomination unto the Lord." Deut. 18: 10-12.

CONSULTING WITH DEVILS

All such professed to consult with the dead. Instead, however, they were really communing with devils. "I would not that ye should have fellowship with devils." 1 Cor. 10: 20.

The Lord gave His people very plain information regarding the condition of the dead. He said: "The living know that they shall die: but the dead know not anything, neither have they any more a reward; for the memory of them is forgotten. Also their love, and their hatred, and their envy, is now perished; neither have they any more a portion forever in anything that is done under the sun." Eccl. 9: 5, 6.

DEMONS AS ANGELS OF LIGHT

Satan and his angels, having power to transform themselves into angels of light (2 Cor. 11: 14, 15), can personate the dead. An instance of such personation is seen in the experience of Saul when the witch of Endor professed to bring up Samuel, who had previously died. 1 Samuel 28.

The Lord says: "Man lieth down, and riseth not: till the heavens be no more, they shall not awake, nor be raised out of their sleep." Job 14: 12. Since the dead "know not anything," and since they have no more "a portion forever in anything that is done under the sun," any one who claims to consult with the dead really consults with evil angels.

It is certainly a deplorable fact that "modern thought is increasingly occupying itself with the 'reconstruction of Christian belief,' and is steadily reverting to pagan necromantic practises."

THE TENDENCY IS DOWNWARD

Professor Schrenk-Notzing, in speaking of the effects attending the evocation of the phenomena, says: "So ardent a spiritist as Sir William Barrett was constrained to declare, some years ago, that 'he had observed the steady downward course of mediums who sit regularly,' and that so open-minded an investigator of the phenomena as Sir William Crookes wrote, after his experiments with Home, 'I could scarcely doubt that the evolution of psychic force is accompanied by a drain on vital force.'"

Thus by the confession of its ardent advocates, it is acknowledged that spiritism is from beneath, since the course of the medium is steadily "downward."

Communion with God always elevates. His Spirit is the Spirit of life. Communion with evil spirits always degrades, and leads eventually to death.

E. E. A.

A WONDERFUL GIFT

It Is Bestowed upon Children Very Early in Life

THE exhortation of the apostle for all to think soberly, according as God has dealt to every man the measure of faith (Rom. 12: 3), is one worthy of much study.

The specification here, it will be noticed, is not that *a* measure of faith has been given to all, as though the gift were one bestowed according to merit; but *the* measure of faith — that is, a gift freely and equably distributed to all alike. It is only reasonable to believe that when Heaven makes requisition upon humanity for service, the ability to render that which is required will be provided alike in each and every case. The capacity to think soberly according to a prescribed standard must be provided to meet the necessity, or no responsibility can attach to the one failing to meet the established rule.

BESTOWED IN EARLIEST CHILDHOOD

Inasmuch as grace brings salvation, and that through faith, which is the gift of God (Eph. 2: 8), the measure of faith to be dealt by God to every one must therefore be uniform, since it is designed to meet a single, well-defined purpose. The great question then is, At what time in human life is this equable endowment bestowed, in order to assure a permanent lead of the mind in proper channels of thought?

From some statements by the Saviour, one would logically conclude that the favored period is at earliest childhood. And why not thus equip the child, so that his earliest thoughts may tend to establish his mind in the things of eternal interest? But to the Saviour's words. When asked to tell who are greatest in the kingdom of heaven, the Master at once set a little innocent child before the questioners, and pointing to the pattern, said: "Except ye be converted, and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven. Whosoever therefore shall humble himself as *this little child*, the same is greatest in the kingdom of heaven." Matt. 18: 1-4.

Inasmuch as the infant thus presented was said to be the standard of heavenly greatness, and faith is the road to that goal, the Saviour virtually affirmed that faith was and is lodged in the human breast at infantile age.

SUFFER THEM TO COME

This thought is strongly entrenched by the words of Christ on another occasion. Complaint was expressed against mothers who had brought their infants to be blessed of the Saviour. Quickly the Master rebuked the sordid spirit by saying: "Suffer the little children to come unto Me, and forbid them not; for of such is the kingdom of God. Verily I say unto you, Whosoever shall not receive the kingdom of God as a little child, he shall not enter therein." Mark 10: 13-15.

It is therefore clear that the simple, trusting faith that moves the moral faculties is vested in the little child before it has developed the independence of later years, which is perhaps stimulated by unhallowed association with those who have no fear of God before them. These tender years are those in which the mental powers act with the most ease and vigor, as may be seen by the natural and healthful operation in useful school studies. The same condition obtains regarding religious impressions. These act quickly on the young mind, bringing vividly to the front one's relation to God, long before the mind becomes capable of mental activity in the departments of more extended common human knowledge.

PREVIOUS EQUIPMENT FOR LIFE'S ACTIVITIES

This is indeed a wise provision on the part of the Almighty; for were it otherwise, when intellectual dormancy had ended, and the child must pass to his place in society, he would do so with untrained and comparatively feeble mentality. Besides, it seems highly proper that when mature life duties are begun, these should be prefaced, and hence strongly supported, by antecedent religious experience. This becomes important because in early life questions of duty are of hourly occurrence, and the education received in settling these assists greatly in establishing the mental activity of later years. Religion is, therefore, to the child, not only a motive power, but a molding agency as well.

In the foreknowledge of God, all these advantages were provided the child, to equip him for mature service in the busy marts of commerce or the more quiet scenes of rural occupation. But in whatever place he might be called to act a part, God gave him

a pre-equipment for the place, in order that his life might reflect glory upon the Author of his existence.

What a loss, then, is met when parents neglect to cultivate the native gift God has so graciously bestowed upon their offspring, especially since the time for doing this is when the mind is so tractable and retentive! How much better is this way than in later days to be called to mourn that their charges have outgrown the time when they would have had pleasure in the ways of the Lord!

J. O. C.

THE LAWYER AND THE DECALOGUE

SPEAKING concerning the Decalogue, in the bosom of which is found the great Sabbath commandment, which says that "the seventh day is the Sabbath of the Lord thy God," an eminent lawyer is reported as saying:

"I have been looking into the nature of that law. I have

been trying to see whether I could add anything to it, or take anything from it, so as to make it better. Sir, I can not. It is perfect.' And then, having shown this to be so, he concluded: 'I have been thinking, Where did Moses get that law? I have read history. The Egyptians and the adjacent nations were idolators. So were the Greeks and Romans; and the wisest and best Greeks and Romans never made a code of morals like this. Where did he get it? He could not have soared so far above his age as to have devised it himself. It came from heaven.'"

This is indeed a great law. It is but a transcript of the original, which is in the "ark of the testament" in heaven. Men can no more change or destroy it than they can ascend into heaven, and having removed Jehovah from His throne, open the sacred ark in the holy of holies, and hurl the original over the shining battlements of heaven.

Truly, as has been said, long should pause the erring hand of man ere he seeks to chisel with human philosophy a single iota from the divine code.

G. B. T.

Question Corner

Conducted by MILTON C. WILCOX
Professor of Biblical Exegesis of the Faculty of the College of Medical Evangelists
Loma Linda, California

NOTE.—This department is for the purpose of helping Bible students. Answers must of necessity be brief, often only suggestive, never exhaustive, never infallible only as they agree with the infallible Word. Such questions only will be answered as seem to the editors to minister to the mission of the paper. Questions of the same import can not be answered repeatedly in the same volume. Name and address must be given, not for publication, but as evidence of good faith and to insure reply by letter if thought best. It is well always to enclose stamp, not stamped envelope, unless answer is desired by letter alone.

46—EVENTS OF REV. 6:14-17

Do the events of Rev. 6:14-17 come in the order given in those verses? What passes away when the heavens depart as a scroll? Do the wicked call upon the rocks and the mountains to hide them after the heavens have departed?

A. C.

There seems to be no reason to look upon the prophecy in any other than as a prediction of a series of chronological events. It certainly is true. The great earthquake foretold in the twelfth verse occurred in 1755; the darkening of the sun and the moon, in 1780; the falling of the stars, in 1833. The other events come in close connection with the second coming of our Lord. The fearful shaking that will take place, and the rolling up of the heavens as a scroll, are certainly caused by the voice of God. See Rev. 16:17 and other passages. There is nothing in the Scriptures that tells us just what the removing of the heavens as a scroll is. There are some passages that apparently throw light upon the matter. We have simply this to suggest,—that when sin entered this world, the world was veiled. Man has not been able to see God's glory. He has not been able to see the beauties of God's kingdom. He has not been able to see all that God would reveal. God in His mercy enveloped the earth with this pall, so to speak,—this veil over His glory; but when He comes into His kingdom, then the veil will be removed, rolled back as a scroll, and His own people will be changed from glory to glory, and the wicked will perish under its insufferable intensity. It is when this shall take place, when the earth itself, in which men have had their hopes, is shaken, that they will cry to the rocks and the mountains to fall on them.

This passing away as a scroll can not refer to the atmospheric heavens, because it is after this that the princes and the chief captains and the mighty men pray that the rocks may fall on them; and Isaiah 34 seems clearly to show that after the desolation made by the destruction of humanity in the earth, animal life will still persist. When the dead are raised again, at the end of the thousand years, they will doubtless feed upon the animal life that has been increasing during the thousand years of earth's desolation.

47—THE 2,300 DAYS

I would like you to explain why you add 34 to 1,810 when it has been cut off from the 2,300 days with the 490 days or years.

J. H. S.

The 2,300 days begin 457 B. C., and end in 1844 A. D. They are 2,300 full years. Beginning in the autumn of 457 B. C., they would end in the autumn of 1844 A. D. 457 from 2,300 leaves 1,843 full years; but as the time began in the autumn of 457 B. C., it

would extend over beyond 1843 A. D. to the autumn of 1844 A. D. There were 490 years cut off upon the Jews, or 70 weeks of the 2,300 years of Daniel 8 and 9. 457 from 490 would leave 33. That is, 457 of these years would be before Christ; 33 years would be after Christ, or carrying it over into the thirty-fourth year. This would leave 1,810 years to 1843. In other words, the 490 years that were cut off upon the Jewish people extend from the autumn of 457 B. C. to the autumn of A. D. 34. 490 from 2,300 leaves 1,810. 1,810 years from 34 A. D. carry us to 1844 A. D. It takes the two numbers—the 490 and the 1,810—to make up the 2,300,—the 490 devoted to the Jewish people exclusively; the rest of the time, of course, to the whole world.

48—VARIOUS TEXTS ON THE DEITY

1. How are we to understand the following scriptures: Ps. 90:2; Isa. 42:8; 1 Cor. 8:6; Deut. 6:4?
2. Can we conclude, from Rev. 3:14 and Col. 1:15, that our Lord Jesus had a beginning, and there was a time when God the Father was alone?

T. A. Z.

1. Some of these scriptures are so plain that it seems as though we could have no question concerning them at all. The one in Psalms would seem to apply to our Lord. The term used is not "Jehovah," but *Adonai*, which, without question, is applied to Christ; and this is the One whom Moses is addressing. He declares, "Even from everlasting to everlasting, Thou art God." And this is in harmony with Micah 5:2. Isa. 42:8 evidently has reference to God. It is Jehovah Himself who speaks: "I am Jehovah, that is My name; and My glory will I not give to another, neither My praise unto graven images." That is the very family name of the Godhead. Sometimes our Lord is called Jehovah. This is emphatically true in Jer. 23:6. In verse 5 He is called the Branch. "In His days Judah shall be saved, and Israel shall dwell safely; and this is His name whereby He shall be called: Jehovah our righteousness."

1 Cor. 8:6 presents before us the agencies by which the earth is created, the relative positions of the two Persons: "To us there is one God, the Father, of whom are all things, and we unto Him; and one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom are all things, and we through Him." The same thought is expressed in John 1:1-3 and in Col. 1:16,—that all the creation was wrought through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Deut. 6:4 is simply an expression of the unity of the Godhead: "Jehovah our God is one Jehovah." Many times, when mention is made of God, it simply implies the Godhead. Of course there is absolute unity in that, just as truly as though there were but one Person; and therefore it is spoken of as one. Our Lord's prayer in

John 17 indicates the same thing: "As Thou, Father, art in Me, and I in Thee." And then He prays that the same unity may exist among His followers.

2. Yes, some do conclude, from Rev. 3:14, that there was a time when the Son did not exist, save in the all-comprehending purpose and potency of God. And yet there are others who still hold—and there is nothing to the contrary in the text—that the beginning of the creation of God means the One in whom the creation began, as declared in Col. 1:17, "And He is before all things, and in Him all things consist." The finite can not grasp the infinite. Let this suffice,—that our Lord is God with the Father from the "days of eternity"; that "He is before all things, and in Him all things consist," and He brings to all those who believe in Him the plenitude of the power of the Deity according to our needs.

Of course, sometimes the expression, such as is used in Col. 1:15, "the First-born," refers to preeminence rather than to priority. God calls Ephraim His first-born, although Manasseh was the first-born. He calls Israel His first-born, while Esau was the first-born of Jacob. That is, God had adopted these as such. They became preeminent because of character. So Jesus is called the First-born of the dead, and is preeminent above them all, and only by His power do all the others live.



SYSTEMATIC BIBLE STUDY

OUR reading this week introduces us to the prophecy of Daniel. The first, third, fourth, and fifth chapters are largely historical and descriptive, but the second presents one of the great lines of prophecy of this truly interesting book. For this line of prophecy, you will find no greater help than the verse-by-verse study of this subject by the late Uriah Smith. It is entitled "Thoughts on Daniel and the Revelation." We will read the book through this week and next, but we can with great profit devote years of study to this prophecy.

The book of Daniel, written nearly six hundred years before Christ, foretold the history of the world in outline for thousands of years to come, even to the end of its career, and to the sublime climax of the second coming of Christ.

SCHEDULE FOR THE WEEK ENDING NOVEMBER 21

1 Chronicles 27 to 2 Chronicles 12
Ezekiel 46-48
Daniel 1-5

Read three chapters each day, from the portions designated in 1 and 2 Chronicles and Ezekiel. On Sabbath, read the first five chapters of Daniel.

IN this article, we have another one of those intensely interesting experiences that came under the observation of Elder Porter when he was pioneering in Africa. He is now in charge of the Asiatic Division of our work.
EDITOR.

PIONEERS IN RHODESIA

MORE DESIRABLE THAN SOLDIERS
—DELIVERED FROM THE REBELLION—
RAINED ON MISSION FARM ONLY

By Ross C. Porter

IN 1894 we began mission operations near Bulawayo. Wild game abounded. The country territory was untilled, wild, and uninhabited except by the native Africans. They were chafing under the restraint of British rule, and waiting an excuse for a further uprising. Fevers were common, and medical attendance was scarce. The procuring of proper food was one of the greatest perplexities to the foreigner.

All mail that reached the government post-office, with the exception of letters, was thrown in a pile on the floor, in a room that was open to the public. Each person had to sort out his papers from the pile; and at the end of the month, all unclaimed papers were dumped into the back yard and burned.

BETTER THAN SOLDIERS FOR THE NATIVES

Providentially, when the late Hon. Cecil Rhodes, Africa's greatest statesman, learned that we were about to open mission work among the Matabele tribe, he secured for us a donation of twelve thousand acres of land, in order that we might conduct our mission on the industrial training plan. In presenting the gift, he said he had learned that missionaries were better than soldiers to keep peace among the natives, and they were much less expensive.

Soon the Matabele rebellion made it necessary for all missionary efforts to be suspended for a time, and all foreigners were urged to flee into Bulawayo for safety. After a fruitless search for rooms in which to live, the three mission families were forced to live in the ox wagon. One family occupied the front end, another the rear, and the third the space on the ground beneath the wagon.

FACING A FAMINE

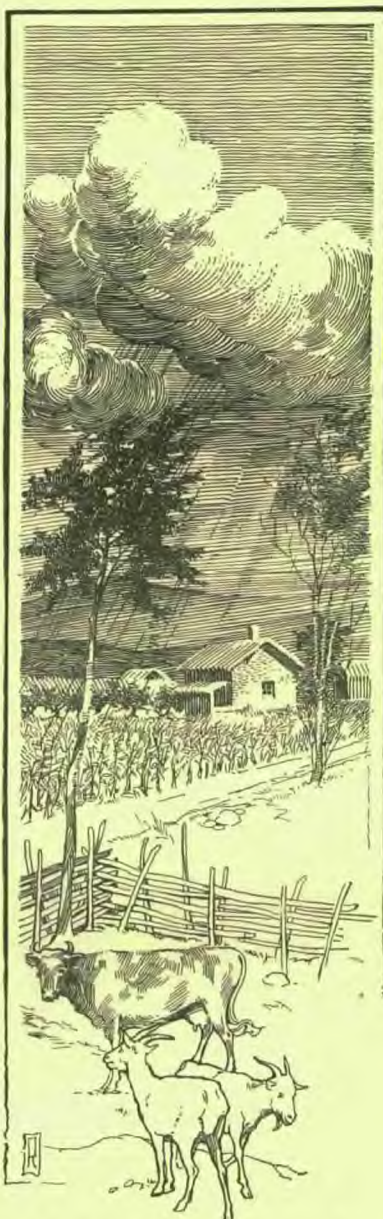
After five months, the food supply in the city ran short. Prices for necessities were as follows: flour, \$37.50 a hundredweight; corn, \$25.00 a hundredweight; sugar, 62 cents a pound; eggs, \$6.25 a dozen; cabbage and cauliflower, \$5.00 to \$7.50 a head; butter, \$3.00 a pound; canned fruit, \$2.50 a quart; with other prices in proportion.

As money ran low, our missionaries decided to risk making weekly visits to the mission farm to have food brought in by the friendly natives. On one of these night trips of thirty-five miles, a gentleman requested the missionary to ride his horse and leave it with the natives, as he could not afford to feed it in town. While passing a range of hills, he was impressed that danger was near. He even heard the still small voice saying, "You are in danger." Putting spurs to his horse, he galloped hastily to a fort near, and put up for the night. While there, he learned that a band of rebels passed the place where he heard the warning voice, about three minutes after he had passed it.

ESCAPED DETECTION AND WERE PRESERVED

Upon another occasion, when one of the missionaries had loaded five donkeys with produce and started on his return journey, the natives keeping up a constant talking, he decided to ride on ahead in order to escape detection if the noise, which he was unable to quiet, should attract the rebels.

When about five miles from town, in the midst of the greatest danger, his donkey, being separated from his mates, began to bray, and regardless of all efforts to quiet him, kept it up until almost to the city. When making later excursions, the missionaries decided to go on foot rather than risk detection in this way. During the ten weeks that these weekly visits were made through the territory under rebel control, they escaped detection, and were enabled in this way to supply themselves with suitable food, thus preserving their health until peace was restored.



"A cloud had hovered over the mission farm for four hours."

A SHINING LIGHT RESCUED FROM THE FAMINE

Famine followed the war, and hundreds of natives starved to death. Children were killed to prevent their starvation. One baby boy was found on the veld by the side of the dead body of his mother. Two other children with fractured skulls were found hidden in a hole near. With this little boy, who is now one of our most efficient Bible teachers in the Solusi Mission, and twenty-nine other famine-stricken children, rescued from death by our missionaries, our mission work began in Rhodesia. Until then, the warnings and the penalties previously given and inflicted, before the British government took control, caused the people to fear to send their children to the mission school. The famine experience was providentially the key that opened the hearts of the Matabele, and from that time they were eager to have their children attend the school.

CONQUERING DIFFICULTIES

The pioneers in mission work had everything to learn. They were in a strange land, among a people of strange customs and a strange language. Their first task was to master the language. Even then they knew little of their undertaking. They had come to bring to the heathen a saving knowledge of the gospel, and to this work they addressed themselves, with too little regard to the care they should take of their own health. This was not on account of carelessness, but the result of a strong burden for a specific work, and is often witnessed in connection with the beginning of great enterprises.

With no suitable home in which to live, their exposure while laying the foundation of their work, the desperate struggle with fevers, their weary watchings between life and death, the burial of companions under the shade of Rhodesia's forest trees, the loneliness that followed, caused by their separation from home friends and loved ones in this hour of their bereavement, were among the experiences of our pioneer missionaries in Rhodesia.

CREATING AN OASIS IN THE DESERT

Their faith was unwavering. Undaunted by adversities, they pressed on. In time the heathen land where their mission station was located, was changed to an oasis. From a barren waste of sand there sprang into life hundreds of acres of cultivated fields of corn, fruit, and garden vegetables in abundance. Modern dwelling-houses replaced native huts, which were, in the beginning, the only available quarters for our missionaries. Beautiful lawns gave to the place an air of Western civilization. School buildings grew with the increase of attendance. A brick chapel to accommodate two hundred native worshipers indicated the influence of the gospel instruction on the students that were regular occupants of the homes of the boarding-school, and other natives in the vicinity.

Work five hours a day by each student was part of the regular curriculum. In this way all received a thorough industrial training, and paid their board and tuition while in school.

Calls for outstations came in from the native kraals for a distance of seventy-five miles from the main station. These outstations were established, and continue with marked success.

During an hour appointed for social worship, I have seen one hundred intelligent, well-dressed natives arise and give testimony to the saving power of the gospel. From six to ten were on their feet at once from the beginning of the service to the close, awaiting an opportunity to testify their appreciation of what the gospel had done for them.

RAINED ON BUT ONE FARM

After twenty years of experience, the Solusi Mission staff decided to undertake to make their mission, with its outschools, en-

tirely self-supporting. This would require that \$5,500 annually be produced from their industrial farming and dairy. Then intervened one of those tests of faith which are not new in Christian experience. One of the worst droughts of many years set in. Fields were drying up, grass was withering, and cattle were dying of starvation. Apparently the plan of the missionaries was destined to defeat, unless in God's providence these conditions were overruled.

The superintendent of the mission placed the situation before the South African Mission Board, and solicited their united prayers for rain. Prayers were offered, and the following week the superintendent wrote that a most wonderful thing had happened. A cloud had hovered over the mission farm for four hours, giving a regular downpour of rain, while none had fallen on the adjoining farms.

A skeptical neighbor whose farm joined the mission, and who witnessed the exhibition, said it was clearly evident that God wished to indicate His special favor for the work of our mission. Later, the same year, after another special season of prayer for rain, there came a good rain upon the mission farm, and also upon the farms adjoining it. That year the grain commissioner reported that the Solusi Mission furnished more grain for the market than was furnished by thirty farmers combined, operating farms in that section.

The effect of these experiences was soon apparent. Farmers who had hitherto refused to have mission schools opened on their farms, made calls for them, saying, "We are convinced that the Lord favors your mission work by giving you rain in time of drought, while others have none." In all these experiences, it is easy to trace the hand of God leading in the onward march of His last-day message in its mission to lighten the earth with His glory before His second advent.

R. C. P.

Work and Workers

IN Kuala Lumpur, Java, four Tamils have recently been baptized after being instructed in the Bible. One is a government book-keeper, and the Sabbath has been granted him, on condition of his working the other six days. Some unbaptized candidates in this field are already paying tithes.

AUSTRALIA has just sent two colporteurs to China. This is outside the regular work of that division in supporting the work in the South Sea Islands and Malaysia.

THE past year has seen the acceptance of the advent message by thirty individuals in Queensland, Australia.

Two young men, recent converts, of Cunningham, Victoria, Australia, performed quite a feat in going to school this year. They rowed more than 250 miles around the coast to Sydney in an open seventeen-footer of their own construction, called the Advent, and it was in weather rough enough to make things interesting also. Aside from the object of adventure, they had the incentive of being able to put Adventist literature into places along the coast which are not reached by railway.

THE Fiji training school for native workers has abundantly justified its establishment.

Four natives from that island are now helping at our mission in British New Guinea, and several in other islands.

OUR Southern New England Conference voted to omit their camp-meeting, and ask the members to devote the money thus saved to the emergency fund, to repair the loss to the mission treasury of the help given by European believers, and to help them also when the way opens.

JUST before the war, the sanitarium at Gland, Switzerland, was overflowing with patients. The sanitarium work and the publishing work on the continent are practically at a standstill during the war.

OUR large sanitarium at Skodsborg, Denmark, has been taken over by the government for use as military barracks. Thus even in the neutral countries of Europe, all peaceful endeavors for human good are hampered or suspended on account of war.

SIX persons are reported baptized in Lake Lemán, Switzerland.

THE Geneva chapel has just been completed.

THE membership of the Latin Union increased by 121, or about ten per cent, during the year just passed. 1,200 members were baptized in Germany last year. There are about 63 members in Belgium, and 47 in Algeria. The Rumanian field has been organized.

SEVENTY-ONE Indians of South America were recently baptized at our Indian mission at Platania, making the membership there nearly 180. Many more were desirous of

being baptized, and as far as we know, were quite prepared, but were unable to be present at the baptismal service. There are 175 members in the Lake Titicaca mission.

TWENTY individuals went forward in a recent baptismal service in Brazil.

A MEMBER of the Japanese church in Oakland, California, has commenced the publication of a Japanese monthly devoted to the "proclamation of faith in the Bible." It has sixteen pages, including the cover, and ought to grow and do much good.

Missionary Literature Wanted

SIGNS and other periodicals. Mrs. A. D. Peckham, Box 95, Bolivar, New York.

Clean copies of SIGNS weekly and monthly, also tracts and leaflets, to be used in railway station. E. J. Popplewill, Darlington, Missouri.

SIGNS, Watchman, Liberty, Life and Health, Instructor, Little Friend, and tracts or books, for missionary work. Mrs. Stella Wise, 738 Center Street, Shelbyville, Indiana.

A continuous supply of S. D. A. papers and books for missionary work. Mrs. Hugh Will, Ava, Jackson County, Illinois, R. R. No. 5.

Z. S. Arey, Brenham, Texas: periodicals and tracts, English or German, for reading racks and house-to-house distribution.

Elder W. H. Armstrong, 521 Overley Street, Danville, Virginia: SIGNS OF THE TIMES weekly and monthly, Watchman, and doctrinal tracts, for city distribution. A continuous supply of clean copies is desired.

Mrs. L. Campa, Taft, Texas: Review, SIGNS, Watchman, etc., for distribution.

J. E. Qualls, Box 200, Marshfield, Oregon: SIGNS weekly, Instructor, magazines, and tracts.

Mrs. O. J. Corwin, 2101 Webster Street, Waco, Texas: late copies of SIGNS weekly and monthly and Watchman for free distribution.

A Scholarship Earned



A girl up in the northwest was anxious to enter Laurelwood Academy this fall. How to do so without funds was her problem. Seeing an opportunity in the home workers' books, she arranged for territory and samples of the books, and went to work in earnest. Result — she earned the requisite amount, and entered on time.

Here is pleasant, good-paying work in which any bright young man or woman who is willing to hustle, might earn a scholarship in the school or college of his or her choice.

Our depository in your state will tell you all about it. Ask for a copy of the short story "Alice Goes to Work."

If already enrolled, and in need of money for board, books, or other needful things, sell the books in your spare time. Previous experience not essential to success.

On every dollar sale, you earn forty cents. This is no inconsiderable amount when we remember that some persons sell anywhere from \$5 to \$20 worth in a single day.

November and December are the harvest months for books like these, because they are admirably suited for holiday gift books.

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THE GREAT INCREASE OF CANCER

Is Not Hereditary — May Be Imparted by Contact — The Causes of the Disease — The Most Successful Treatments

By D. H. KRESS, M.D.

New England Sanitarium, Melrose, Massachusetts

IT is estimated that in the United States alone no fewer than one hundred thousand persons are afflicted with cancer at all times, and that over seventy thousand die of the disease each year. In civilized countries, the deaths from cancer have increased very rapidly during the past thirty years.

If this increase continues, the mortality from the disease will soon equal that from tuberculosis. At present, one woman out of every ten, after reaching the age of thirty-five, is doomed to die of this disease.

A COMMUNICABLE DISEASE

Whether the disease is due to a germ, or whether it is a wild growth of tissue, has not yet been fully determined. One thing of great importance has been discovered, and that is, cancer can be transplanted from one animal to another, and is therefore a communicable disease.

There has been a universal belief that cancer runs in families. Some persons may find comfort in the knowledge that the disease is not hereditary. However, it does run in families. But if a mature person has cancer whose father or mother had it, the probability is that both parent and offspring lived in such a way as to induce it; that "like causes, acting on like organisms in succeeding generations, produce like results."

PREDISPOSING CAUSES OF CANCER

Anything that defiles the blood acts as a predisposing cause of cancer. The free use of foods that are impure, or that through decay in the alimentary tract form impurities, tends to pave the way for cancer. Meat not merely contains a large amount of these impurities, but it readily undergoes decay in the human alimentary canal, thus forming poisonous irritants which excite the tissue to become abnormal and degenerate.

Dr. W. A. Jamieson, physician for diseases of the skin at the Edinburgh Royal Infirmary, in discussing the causes of cancer, expresses the belief that the increase in the consumption of butcher's meat, and especially the extensive use of beef, is one of the leading causes of the greater prevalence of cancer in modern times. There are many other authorities who hold to the same view.

Dr. Burney Yeo says, "Among other evils attending an animal dietary, one is that it favors the tendency, where it exists, to the development of cancer."

In the report of the mortality due to cancer among the workers in Packingtown, who live largely on meats, Dr. Guilford shows an enormous prevalence of cancer among the workers. In the statistics furnished, foreigners of the so-called flesh-eating nations reveal the highest death-rate, in marked contrast to the nations that consume fifty to forty per cent less meat per capita.

VEGETARIANS ARE IMMUNE

From returns collected in England by Dr. Roger Williams, it appears that of one hundred and ninety-three cancer patients,

ninety-nine had been moderate eaters of meats, seventy-eight used little, and sixteen much, and "there was not a single strict vegetarian among them." The orthodox Jews, who adhere closely to the laws of Moses, and abstain from the use of pork, rarely suffer of the disease.

The following table, obtained from the Hon. R. Russell's work on "Strength and Diet," shows how the prevalence of cancer stands related to the use of meats in various countries:

In England

The cancer rate is high.
The flesh eaten is much.

In Ireland (South)

The cancer rate is rather low.
The flesh eaten is little.

In Italy

The cancer rate is moderate.
The flesh eaten is moderate.

In Saxony

The cancer rate is very high.
The flesh eaten is much.

In Hungary

The cancer rate is very low.
The flesh eaten is little.

In Sardinia, where the deaths caused by cancer are less than two to ten thousand, and in Bombay, where in 1875 the deaths due to this disease were at the rate of only one to every ten thousand, the use of meat is almost unknown. In Persia the disease is seldom met; and in Egypt, Tunis, and Algeria there is a decided immunity.

PREVALENT AMONG THE MEAT EATERS

In Canada, the United States, and Australia, the death-rate from cancer ranges from two hundred eighty to four hundred seventy out of every ten thousand deaths. The disease is four hundred times as prevalent in Australia as in Bombay.

This is not a mere coincidence. The people of Sardinia, Bombay, Persia, and Algeria are practically non-carnivorous, while Australians are the greatest meat eaters in the world.

Another point of interest is, in Australia, more meat is consumed in the rural districts than in the cities. We find that cancer is more common in the rural districts of Australia than in the cities, while in Europe and America, where meat is more freely used in the cities, the reverse is the case, the disease prevailing more in the cities than in the country. All of this points to meat as one of the chief causative factors in the production of cancer.

The chief predisposing cause of cancer is a vitiated blood stream, resulting from the absorption of impurities found in meats, or of highly toxic impurities produced by putrefaction of meats in the alimentary canal. Any habit, however, that tends to lower the vitality of the body tissue, undoubtedly acts as a predisposing cause.

The excessive use of salt, beer, tea, coffee,

and tobacco, and the breathing of impure air, act as contributing causes of the disease. Animal fats, butter, and sugar all favor the development of products that pave the way for cancer.

WORST AMONG THE OVERFED

Cancer does not, as a rule, affect the scantily fed. Its victims are chiefly among the high livers, or the overfed.

Cancerous growths usually develop in tissue that has been subjected to irritation or to injury. Cancer of the lip, the mouth, or the throat from the use of tobacco, is for this reason practically confined to men, and cancer of the breast to women. The stiff corset, by keeping up constant pressure and irritation, and the excitation due to nursing, are common causes.

Pepper, mustard, pickles, and other direct irritants, and sugar, jellies, greasy foods, and soft, starchy foods, which favor fermentation and the formation of irritating products, act as exciting causes of cancer of the stomach and liver. Since dietetic errors are equally common among men and women, we find cancer of the stomach and liver equally distributed among men and women.

CAREFUL LIVING WILL PREVENT IT

While cancer is not transmitted from parents to children, yet children may inherit an inferior organism or a predisposition to cancer; but if careful in living, they need never die of the disease.

Cancer is not unusual among animals that are kept confined, and whose surroundings are unhygienic. This is probably the chief cause of its prevalence among cows. The prevalence of the disease among animals is one of the sources of its growing frequency among men. Often in cutting up meat, butchers encounter internal cancerous tumors. These they remove, but the remainder of the carcass is always sold. The cancer cells frequently circulate in the blood, and are deposited in various parts of the body of the animal. Cancer in fish is common. By the use of infected meat, the cancer cell may be directly transplanted from the animal to man; and those who have previously filled their tissues with impurities through improper habits, naturally fall victims to it.

THE BEST TREATMENT FOR CANCER

Surgery is indicated as soon as the growth makes its appearance. In removal of superficial cancers, escharotics or plasters may be employed. The results are often disappointing. Sir James Paget, a most distinguished surgeon, in speaking of surgery as a cure for cancer, said, "As to the influence of an operation in prolonging life, I believe the removal of the local disease makes no material difference in the average duration of life."

Dr. Mayo, America's chief surgeon, in his outline of pathology, wrote, "After amputation of a cancerous breast under the most favorable circumstances, I believe that in ninety-nine cases out of a hundred, the disease returns."

For treatment to be effective, a cancer should be removed at the earliest possible opportunity. The needed reforms in eating, drinking, etc., must be made. When this is done, there is justifiable hope for permanent relief in many cases.

CAREFULNESS IN DIET A MAIN HELP

In order to avoid cancer, or to rid the system of the disease after it exists, animal flesh as an article of food should be aban-

done. Cheese, butter, sugar, and other foods that readily decay or ferment in the alimentary tract, and thus produce irritants which, when absorbed, tend to give rise to inflammatory processes in the tissues of the body, should be eaten sparingly or not at all.

Well-baked breads, corn flakes, puffed rice, zwieback, shredded wheat biscuits, and unfermented breads, thoroughly baked and well masticated, are safe articles of food. Fresh fruits, as pineapples, grape fruit, oranges, apples, grapes, peaches, etc., should be freely used. Cooked vegetables readily ferment, and should therefore be used in but small quantities. Raw vegetables, as celery, lettuce, cabbage, etc., aid in keeping the alimentary canal sterile, and prevent the formation of irritants. Ripe olives and olive-oil, or a moderate amount of nuts, should be substituted for butter and other animal fats. Figs and persimmons may take the place of sugar, if sweets are desired. Salt should be used sparingly. Pepper, mustard, and spices should be given up entirely.

CLEANSING THE TISSUES AND STARVING THE CANCER

If the patient has an abundance of flesh, a complete fast for a week will be found beneficial. During this time, half a glassful of pure distilled or soft water should be taken at intervals of one half hour. At the end of the fast, subacid fruits may form the exclusive diet for another week, and then the well-baked cereals may be added. Fresh fruits and raw vegetables may form the diet for several months.

The purpose is not to starve the patient, but to cleanse the tissues, and thus starve the cancer.

Careful adherence to a vegetarian dietary not only tends to prevent cancer, but in one case that came under my observation a cure was effected in this manner. I know of a number of cases where such a dietary was adopted by patients after a surgical operation, and in most of these cases the cancer did not return.

I am convinced if the regime outlined were followed religiously, the prevalence of cancer could be reduced to a minimum.

No Boozer Wanted

THESE rules have been posted in the shops, warehouses, and office of the Daltzell Brothers Company, Youngstown, Ohio, distributors of roofing supplies:

"The use of intoxicating liquors during hours of employment with this company is hereby forbidden.

"Drinking to excess impairs efficiency, and will not be tolerated on or off duty.

"The bringing of intoxicating liquors into the shop or onto jobs is hereby forbidden.

"Failure to comply with any of these rules will result in immediate discharge.

"In selecting employees, preference will be given to the total abstainer."

In a statement regarding its action, the company says the public is constantly demanding more efficient service, and it is determined to secure the services of sober, industrious workmen. Furthermore, "Drink is often the cause of accidents; and as the state insurance rate is affected by the number of accidents, we are determined not to place ourselves liable to an increased rate."

M. C. WILCOX.

Page 1 of Our Latest Tract

The subject is clearly presented in the question and answer form. Although brief (eight pages), this tract is comprehensive. You will wish to read it, and you will want others to do so too.

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Heaven Closing Accounts

WITH THE HUMAN FAMILY



Are we living in the time of the Judgment? A serious question, isn't it? If we are living in that time, you want to know it, and you want others to know it too, don't you? What would it be worth to you to know? 10 cents, the price of a copy? \$1.00, the price of a year's subscription?

An illuminating article on this subject appears in the December *Signs Magazine*. Read it, and have your mind settled on this point.

Every number contains several articles equally important as this one. Answers to the following questions will be found in the December *Signs Magazine* articles:

Is Japan mentioned in the prophecies?
Will the Bible prophecies referring to plagues and pestilences be partially fulfilled this winter?
What will be the attitude of the United States toward the papacy in the near future?
Will Russia and Turkey meet on the battle-field?

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SOUTHERN PACIFIC

How the Lord Turned My Captivity

By DAVID PAULSON, M. D.

ON my return home from a distance, I was stricken down with a frightful infection, a veritable blood-poisoning. In a few days, the fierce fever was subdued, but my entire system showed plainly that it had been overwhelmed by some virulent toxin. For several weeks I was confined to my bed.

I was just beginning in a most painful way to drag myself about for an hour or so at a time, when my wife came into my room and said: "There is a patient about to have a serious operation. Her heart is in such a desperate condition that the surgeon fears she may die on the operating-table. She is certain to die if she does not have an operation, and she and her friends have decided to run the risk, but she *insists* that you should come down and pray for her." I said: "I am too ill. I simply can not do it. Gather in some of the other folks, and pray for her yourself. The Lord is just as willing to hear your prayer as He is to hear mine." And with that Mrs. Paulson left the room.

A moment later, there flashed into my mind the thought that "the Lord *turned* the captivity of Job, when he prayed for his friends." Job 42:10. I immediately got out of bed and began to dress. When I was nearly through, Mrs. Paulson returned to my room and wanted to know what I was doing. I said I was going down to pray for that patient. She said, "Why, we have just been to her room and had a special season of prayer." To which I replied, "Nevertheless, I also am going down and pray for her."

I felt a sweet peace come into my soul as I knelt by her bedside, and appreciated, perhaps as I never had before, the wonderful privilege of prayer. Suffice it to say that the woman had a successful operation, experienced scarcely an ache or pain afterward, and made a most marvelous recovery. She firmly believed that God in a very special manner heard and answered prayer in her behalf.

I happened to glance out of the window as I left her room, and saw one of our young men sitting out on the veranda. Word had reached me that he was passing through a great trial and was rapidly backsliding. It came to me forcibly that he needed prayer as much as the sick woman did, so I went to him and had a good heart-to-heart talk with him. We knelt down together in my office. He confessed his sins and shortcomings, and most earnestly reconsecrated himself to God; and as he rose from his knees, he took me by the hand, and thanked me for the interest I had taken in his spiritual welfare. From that time he has had a progressive experience, and bids fair to become a most successful worker in God's vineyard.

To make a long story short, from that very hour the Lord *turned* my captivity. I did not go back to bed again except to sleep. I began at once to wrestle with the many problems that had accumulated during my illness, and was speedily at work with my old-time vigor and strength.

The reason for relating this experience is the thought that perhaps the Lord might see fit to use it to bless some poor disheartened, discouraged mortal whose future outlook seems blighted and blasted. I would suggest that such a one begin to pray for his friends,

and remember that Job did not think "his friends" had been very good to him. They had not appreciated his troubles as he thought they should, yet he did not get rid of his own troubles until he prayed for these very friends. Do you know some people who have not been very good to you? Include them in your prayers, and then wait patiently for the Lord to turn your captivity.

"They Say, and Do Not"

HEAVEN counts a wide difference between saying and doing. If full valuation were placed upon the sayings of men, no doubt nearly the whole world would be saved. The difference between a Pharisee and a saint has ever been that one says and does not, while the other may say little, but does. "Not every one that *saith* unto Me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that *doeth* the will of My Father who is in heaven." "The scribes and the Pharisees sit in Moses' seat. . . . They say, and do not." It is not the sayers who are justified before God, but the doers.

T. E. BOWEN.

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Signs of the Times

MOUNTAIN VIEW, CALIFORNIA, NOVEMBER 17, 1914

The War Storm Spreading

TURKEY has at last been drawn into this Old World conflict, which was certainly bad enough already. And since Turkey has been drawn into it, there is hardly a possibility that Italy and the Balkan States can be kept out. Strong influences are brought to bear upon Italy to have her join in the strife. Her war party is so vigorous in its activities that quite likely by the time this paper reaches our readers, she will be lined up in the conflict, and possibly the Balkan States will have followed her.

How these things show the mad spirit of war that is in the world! And how literally do they fulfil the great word of the prophet, that in the time when the Judgment hour was pending, the nations of earth would be enraged! Men have been talking peace, because they were counting on the "Christian nations" to keep the peace. It was recently pointed out by a leading editor in Montreal that "if this were not an epoch of sham and hypocrisy, the fact that nations are making use of their tools of destruction would not cause so loud an outcry of astonishment and horror."

We do have a loud outcry against the war; but nevertheless, all the nations involved so far, with the exception of Turkey and Japan, are what are called the great Christian nations of the Old World. Now, if their Christianity were genuine, they would not be embroiled in this war. Hence the truthfulness of the Montreal editor's assertion concerning the sham and hypocrisy of this time.

The cruelties and the barbarities of war are in no sense related to Christianity. If an individual will take the pains to search the Old Testament records which tell of God's directing the movements of ancient Israel in times of war, he will find that the nations which Israel was commissioned to destroy were so degraded and hopelessly vile that the only merciful thing to do was to destroy them.

God destroyed the old world by a flood, and He destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah by fire, for the reason that wickedness had become so great that the condition was absolutely hopeless, and their destruction was the only merciful course. In like manner, nations were visited by destructive wars; but we have the record of God's waiting four hundred years before sending war upon the Amorites, until their iniquities would become full.

God does destroy hopeless wickedness—sometimes in one way, and sometimes in another. But He does not lead in the ordinary wars, even though the people that are engaged in them may be professing His name; and it is wicked for ministers of the gospel, who pretend to understand and know His word, to teach that cruelties of ordinary war have the authority and direction of God.

For wise purposes, God may not restrain in some of these wars; but He has foretold that the spirits of demons would be the power working in the times in which we are living. One of the characteristics of Satan is to seek, in fiendish delight, to charge his deeds upon God, and get men to believe that He is the author of them.

Appeals of the Suffering and Destitute

IN the midst of plenty and of peace, it is difficult for us to realize the suffering of the homeless, starving millions of war-stricken Europe. Their appeals are coming to us for bread and for clothing to keep them from perishing. These appeals must not be disregarded. It is our duty, under such circumstances, to help to the limit of our ability. We seek to keep this matter before our readers each week, because it is urgent.

Offerings designed to help these suffering ones, may be sent to the treasurer of the Pacific Press Publishing Association, Mountain View, Cali-

fornia, and they will be promptly forwarded through our regular organization to assist in this most necessary work.

Thanksgiving Day

THURSDAY of this week is the day set apart by our nation for thanksgiving and prayer; and if ever there was a year in our history when we had innumerable blessings for which to be thankful, that year is the present one. We not only have bountiful crops in every section of the country, but our great nation is in peace, while nearly all the rest of the world is plunged in war.

Though we may be exceedingly sad because of the work of destruction that is devastating so large a part of the world, yet it is also perfectly proper for us to be most truly thankful that this nation has been saved from it, and that instead of joining the rest of the world in destruction and in producing misery and suffering, we can devote ourselves to relieving these distresses, and feeding the hungry millions that Europe's war is leaving as a part of its wreckage.

Officers of Law Abetting Burglaries

A YEAR or so ago, Chicago was in the lime-light among the reformers who were working to suppress vice, and such an excellent work was done that very many people thought Chicago was



The grand duchess Olga, the czar's eldest daughter, inspecting her regiment of hussars, of which she is colonel, before it left for the front. Women in the various nations of Europe are taking quite a prominent part in the war.

going to be cleaned up. But an active attorney for the state who has been working quite commendably and heroically in Chicago during recent months, finds that "we have evidence to show that some detectives not only share the booty of pick-pockets, but actually travel with them in street-cars, suggesting victims, and standing ready to aid in case of detection."

These plagues of crime break out in one city after another throughout the world. They show that regardless of our apparently exalted civilization, we are infested with crowds of criminals, many of whom masquerade in the garb of gentility and refinement. Men and women should learn how to look at existing facts when they are considering the conditions of this world, rather than to be influenced by the clamorous talk of men who disregard the facts and insist upon teaching us that the world is getting better all the time. One city after another is "cleaned up," according to the records; but the next time it has to be cleaned up, often it is discovered that the last state is worse than the first.

The efforts of our reformers, however, and our law-abiding citizens who are combating these things, are not without effect, and they should be encouraged in their work; for what an awful condition this world would be in but for those who are exposing and opposing lawlessness and crime!

But we must not make the mistake of believing that men will be successful in converting this world through the civilizing reforms that are advocated. The Bible is the one beacon that shows

what we may expect, and in its light we can see the outcome clearly. Unless we are guided by its light, we shall have one surprise after another, until finally we see the world go down in its everlasting ruin at the second coming of Christ.

The World Getting Better

IN the face of every kind of evidence to the contrary, men continue to insist that the world is constantly growing better and better. Of course it is encouraging to know that there are thousands upon thousands of men and women in the world, but not of it, who manifest the strongest characters, and are as staunch supporters of righteousness as have been seen in any age in the world's history. In fact, we may know that the conditions in this time will develop men and women who will be as strong morally as any generation in the past has ever produced. Men like Elijah and Moses will stand up for God and right; for the triumphant song that will be sung by the redeemed from the last generation is to be the song of Moses as well as the song of the Lamb, and the message of God to the world in the last days is to go with the spirit and power of Elijah.

But while these forces are working mightily for God, we read definitely from the book of one of His prophets whose writing was to be sealed until "the time of the end," that while "many shall be purified, and made white, and tried," yet "the wicked shall do wickedly: and none of the wicked shall understand."

There is not a single ray of hope held out to us, in the word of God anywhere, that the greedy, crime-laden, wicked world will ever become any better; but on the other hand, we are told that it will grow worse and worse.

These facts need to be kept in mind constantly, that we may not be deceived by the popular clamor of this time, and hence be lost in the whirlpool of iniquities that will engulf those who the Master has told us will go in large numbers down the broad way to destruction.

Women in the War

ONE of the striking things in this war is the part that women are taking in it. Of course women have formerly assisted in hospital work, in nursing the wounded and the sick. But the spirit of war has so taken possession of the population of some of the Old World nations, that women are attiring themselves as men, and going to the front as regular soldiers. This is said to be the case particularly in Russia, and in some of the Balkan States the women are regularly trained as soldiers.

But there is no reason why we should not expect things of this kind when practically all the titled women of Europe are members of some of the leading military organizations, and usually hold high honorary offices in the army and the navy. They are seen in the parades, and thus lend their influence to the spirit of war; and it is nothing more than a logical result that women should be found at the front fighting like men.

Why is it that the people of this world can not see that the war fever is spreading like a malignant contagion all through this world, and that it has taken complete possession of the great masses? It indicates the dissolution of society, and that terrible breaking up of the world which the prophets have shown would be the condition just before the second coming of Christ.

Of the six states that voted on prohibition November 3, the returns indicate that Arizona and Oregon have voted in favor of it, with Colorado and Washington, in all probability, having carried it, but nothing sure as yet. The claim is that it has been defeated in California and Ohio; but the figures for these states are based upon the returns from the large cities, where the whisky vote is strongest. Even should the victory carry but four out of the six states for prohibition, it would be a great achievement. This mighty wave of influence in favor of prohibition is evidently one of God's great plans to check the awful floods of evil that come through intemperance.