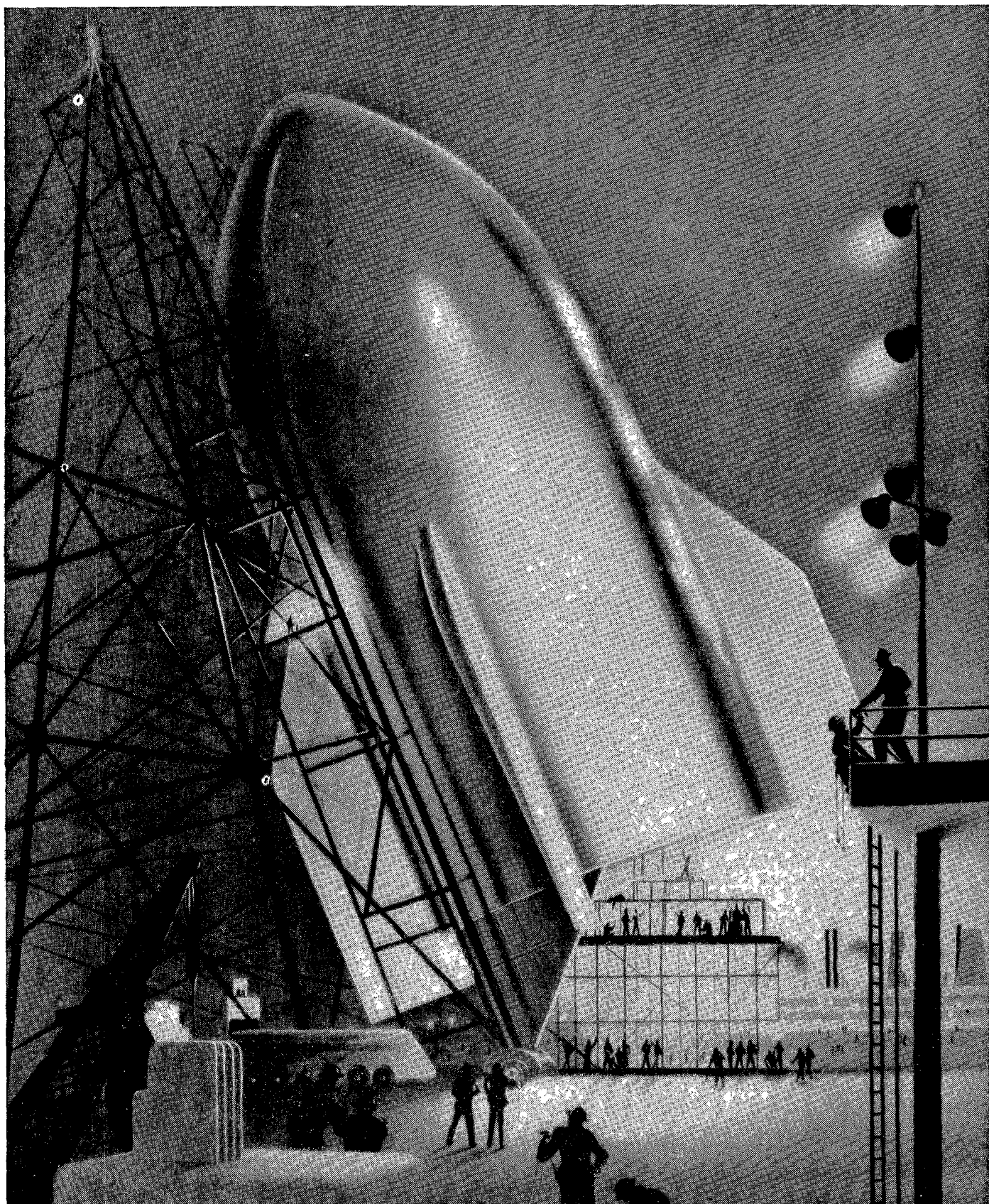
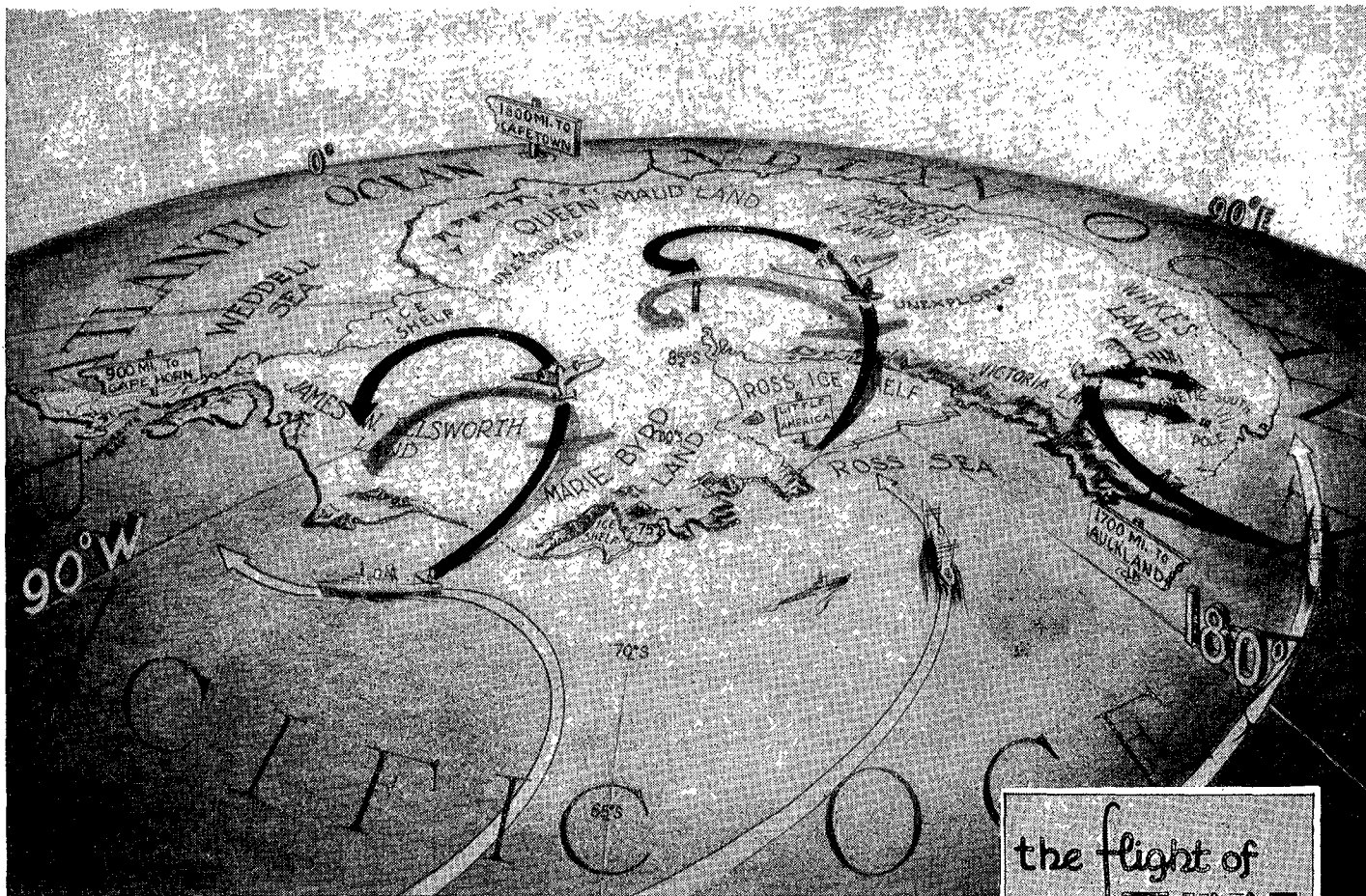


• SIGNS ^{OF THE} TIMES

THE WORLD'S PROPHETIC WEEKLY



ACME, FROM MECHANIX ILLUSTRATED



U. S. NAVY, ACME



DARK DOORWAY TO WAR

AS President Truman's declaration on U. S. foreign policy was broadcast to the world, people everywhere realized that a fateful step had been taken toward the third world war.

"The total purport of the message was clear to the world," said *Time*; "the U. S., realizing (however dimly and belatedly) that it was engaged in a deadly struggle with communism, had begun a positive effort to organize a non-communist world."

Many frankly regarded the President's statement as a clear declaration of war. Rome's *Risorgimento Liberale* wrote: "We are confronted with a declaration of war, limited to the ideological plane but nonetheless categorical."

From a high official at the Vatican came this opinion: "We have been brought away from what should have been the bright threshold of peace to what looks like the dark doorway to war."

In this case the wish may have been father to the thought, but it is nonetheless true that the conviction is spreading and deepening among all people that another global conflict is already in the making; that the inevitable trial of strength between democracy and communism cannot be long delayed.

This map indicates the areas in the antarctic recently explored by the U. S. Navy, using planes and ships in the most thorough study ever given to those polar regions.

Delegates to the United Nations in New York who represented their respective countries at the League of Nations in Geneva are already saying that they have a similar feeling of helplessness and frustration. Hope that the U. N. might be able to prevent another war is growing very dim.

Only a few weeks ago a lecturer who had just returned from a six month's tour of Europe and the Middle East told a group of professors at Chicago University that in conversing with hundreds of important people he had found that the main topic of conversation everywhere was the next world war and the possibility that it might break out before the end of the present year!

Perhaps the most astonishing feature of this situation is that even while the foreign ministers of the great powers were meeting together in apparent fraternity in Moscow to seek agreement on how to bring World War II to a satisfactory close, the press of both America and Russia were openly naming the chief potential belligerents of World War III, even going so far as to suggest the probable means and places of attack.

The very thought is enough to send a shudder through mankind. It is not yet two years since the collapse of Germany and Japan. The peace treaties with these defeated nations have not yet been

the flight of TIME

A
SURVEY OF
WORLD
EVENTS
by the
EDITOR

signed. Yet here we find ourselves drifting at increasing tempo toward another clash of arms which, should it come, would without doubt be the most frightful disaster of its kind in human history, a war of atomic bombs, death rays, supersonic planes, and stratospheric rockets.

No wonder a demobilized GI quipped to his wife the other day: "Dust off my uniform; I'll be needing it again soon."

Millions of others are secretly entertaining the same dread thought. To quote the words of Jesus, the hearts of men are "failing them for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth." Luke 21:26. Behind man's gay exterior a leaden weight of dread is depressing his mind. Nor does one hear anywhere a single voice of hope, save only from those who still believe in the promises of the Bible.

Here indeed is the only hope left to us. Man has proved—and is continuing to prove—his utter helplessness in the pres-

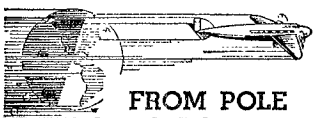
ence of the gigantic world problems of our day. He is demonstrating that he cannot save himself from the results of the natural perversity of his heart. If deliverance is to come, it must come, as the Bible teaches, from above. God must intervene. He must "send Jesus" as He promised in the long ago. Acts 3:20.

It is at such a time—when man has come to the end of his resources, and his constant failures have brought him to the verge of total chaos and destruction—that this miracle will happen, and we shall "see the Son of man coming in a cloud with power and great glory." Luke 21:27.

Some may scorn the suggestion, but what have they to offer to a despairing world? Nought but terrifying pictures of increasing confusion and degeneration—of a world where man's progeny, deformed by atomic rays, will finally achieve its own hideous destruction.

Our only hope today, we repeat, is the blessed hope, "the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ." Titus 2:13. Let us cherish it in our hearts as the days grow darker and the last dread scenes of history press upon us, remembering the words of the Master: "When these things begin to come to pass, then look up, and lift up your heads; for your redemption draweth nigh." Luke 21:28.

And in that happy day, instead of facing "the dark doorway to war," God's faithful children will find themselves passing the portals of eternal peace.



**FROM POLE
TO POLE**

NEVER till now have the nations of the world manifested such zealous interest in the polar regions.

Joint U. S.-Canadian expeditions have been reaching out into the most northerly parts of Canadian territory, testing new machines for crossing the vast frozen wastes and setting up meteorological stations far within the Arctic Circle; while on the other side of the world Russia has been pushing her explorations ever deeper into the same desolate regions.

In the far south several nations have planned expeditions into the Antarctic, the United States leading with Admiral Byrd's now famous enterprise involving many ships, planes, submarines, and four thousand men.

Britain has been operating a research

University of California scientists explain to Admiral J. W. Reeves the intricate control equipment which enables airport control men to guide planes to a safe landing in any kind of weather.

OUR COVER

Plans are on foot to prepare a rocket that will reach the moon, foreshadowed in this picture from *Mechanix Illustrated*. Such a rocket would need to be large enough to carry a sufficient quantity of fuel to propel it at a speed of 25,000 miles an hour. See article on page 8, "This Amazing Century."

expedition in the Falkland Islands Dependencies since 1943, with meteorologists, geologists, and botanists at work from Graham Land to the south Orkney Islands.

Both Argentina and Chile have plans on foot to penetrate the same region.

Sweden is planning to explore an ice-free valley located by Germans in Princess Astrid Land.

Australia is sending an expedition into Australian Antarctic territory and New Zealand is sending another into the Ross Dependency.

Why this sudden interest in the vast wastes of the polar regions? Some say that it is to search out the stores of uranium believed to be buried beneath the icecap. Others say that it is to find deposits of copper, gold, oil, and coal that may be hidden there. More probably it is to prepare for political eventualities in these now highly strategic regions.

With the advent of the air age and stratospheric planes, it has been noted that the shortest route between the Argentine and Australia, for instance, or between South Africa and New Zealand, is over the Antarctic. Similarly, and much more important, the shortest route between San Francisco and Moscow, or between Washington and Vladivostok, is over the North Pole. Military strate-

gists have been frank enough to say that if another war should break out, America would be most vulnerable not from the oceans, but from the air, over the poles.

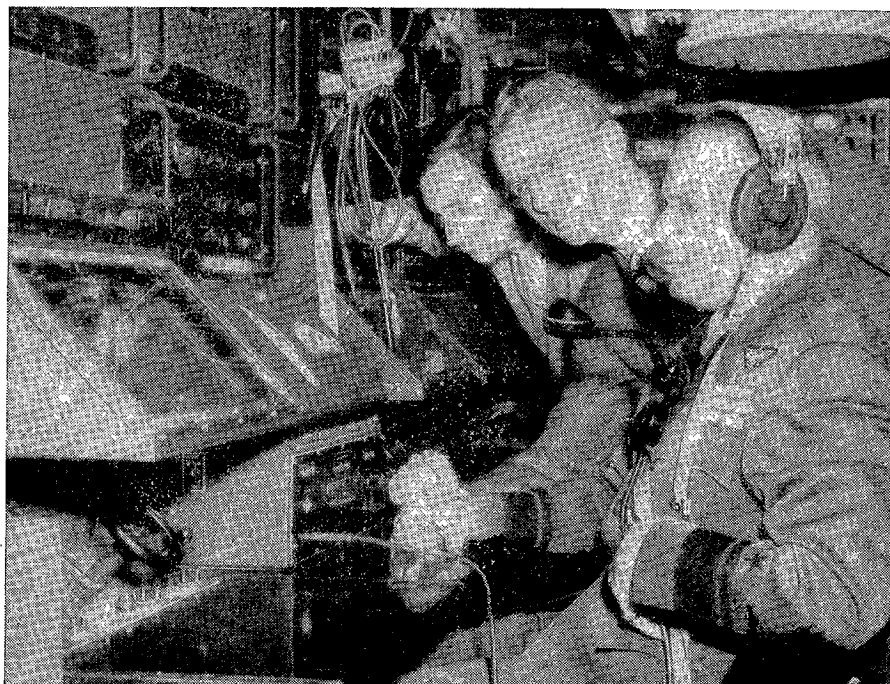
Hence the feverish interest in these regions and the race to discover every available fact about weather conditions, possible air bases, and the necessary equipment for operating in sub-zero temperatures.

To the student of prophecy such developments are of no small significance. They add one further evidence that history is moving toward its climax.

For the Bible makes plain that the final events will be global in extent. History may have begun in a corner of a continent, but it will end, simultaneously, "in all the world." Matthew 24:14. The angel with the last message of mercy preaches it to them that dwell "on the earth, and to every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people." Revelation 14:6. When the end comes, it is "as a snare . . . on all them that dwell on the face of the whole earth." Luke 21:35. And in the final judgment "behold, the Lord maketh the earth empty. . . . The land shall be utterly emptied, and utterly spoiled." Isaiah 24:1-3.

Thus as we see the nations reaching out to the very ends of the earth, not only east and west, but also north and south to the uttermost limit of their frontiers, we see yet another indication that the divine plan of the ages is moving toward its culmination.

Not a corner of the earth where the humblest human beings dwell will remain unexplored or unenlightened in the last great day, for every soul must hear God's final message and "every eye" shall see Him when He comes.



THE MIRACLE OF THE JEWS

Their Contribution to Civilization

by ROY F. COTTRELL

THE perennial existence of the Jewish people in every nation is the great enigma and miracle of history. Of these remarkable "citizens of the world without a country," H. L. Hastings writes:

"Scattered through every land and in every clime; mingled among all peoples; adapting themselves to all circumstances, climates, conditions, and governments, and though oppressed and scorned and spurned, yet ever rising to honor when the pressure of persecution is removed; going from the prison house of Egypt to ride in the chariot of Pharaoh, and from among the children of the captivity to sit in the high places of Babylon and Persia; gaining influence, winning wealth, obtaining power, and defying competition; more prolific, orderly, temperate, healthy, and long-lived than any other race; more numerous, wealthy, and influential today, after eighteen hundred years of dispersion and oppression, than they were in the palmist days of David and Solomon—the historian, the patriot, and the philosopher cannot fail to observe in the existence of this scattered nation a phenomenon well worthy of the most careful consideration."—*Will the Old Book Stand?* page 225.

The unique and supernatural element in the life history of Israel was recognized by their great lawgiver, Moses, in these words: "Who is like unto thee, O people saved by the Lord, the shield of thy help;" while in the language of Isaiah, "This people have I formed for Myself; they shall show forth My praise." Deuteronomy 33:29; Isaiah 43:21.

As previously stated, God designed to place them "on high above all nations of the earth;" but should they drift into apostasy, they were to be scattered "among all people" throughout the world. Deuteronomy 28:1, 64. *There* they have been for nearly nineteen centuries, and *there* they are today.

Another specific forecast of long ago states: "Lo, the people shall dwell alone, and shall not be reckoned among the nations." Numbers 23:9.

A race uprooted from its homeland and dispersed to the ends of the earth would naturally be absorbed by the peoples among whom they lived. Add to this the frightful restraints that have been placed upon the Jews, the unrelenting persecutions they have suffered, and one marvels that they could possibly survive. What has preserved them from utter extinction?

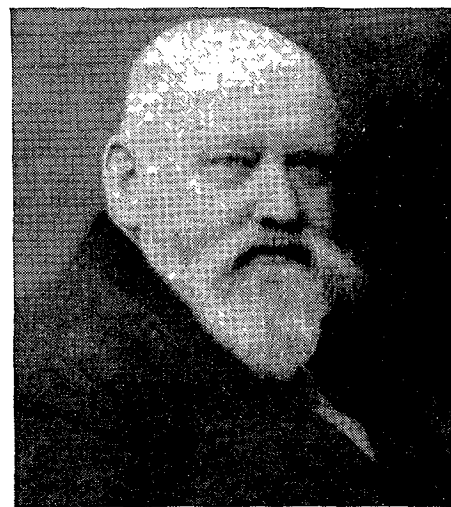
However, the seemingly impossible has happened, and the historian voices his amazement:

"Massacred by thousands, yet springing up again from their undying stock; the Jews appear at all times, and in all regions. Their perpetuity, their national immortality, is at once the most curious problem to the political inquirer; to the religious man a subject of profound and awful admiration."—H. H. Milman, *History of the Jews*, vol. 2, pp. 398, 399.

To this enigma divine prophecy supplies the solution, for God's promise was given: "Yet for all that, when they be in the land of their enemies, I will not cast them away, neither will I abhor them, to destroy them utterly, and to break My covenant with them." Leviticus 26:44.

Nor are the Jews a dying, dwindling race; and this miracle of preservation is the more astonishing when we ask: Where are the powerful Amorites, Hittites, Philistines, Assyrians, Babylonians, and other ancient peoples who oppressed Israel? Not one descendant of any of these tribes or nations can be identified today. But in spite of agelong misfortune, heartless oppression, and mass executions, more than ten million children of Abraham still survive as living witnesses to the unfailling certainty and authenticity of Bible prophecy.

No combination of men or nations can exterminate the Jews, for the word declares that Israel is indestructible. "Thus saith the Lord, which giveth the sun for a light by day, and the ordinances of the moon and of the stars for a light by night, which divideth the sea when the waves thereof roar; The Lord of hosts is His name: if those ordinances depart from before Me, saith the Lord,



Baron Rothschild, head of the Rothschild family, Europe's greatest financiers.

then the seed of Israel also shall cease from being a nation before Me forever. Thus saith the Lord; If heaven above can be measured, and the foundations of the earth searched out beneath, I will also cast off all the seed of Israel for all that they have done, saith the Lord." Jeremiah 31:35-37.

So long as the sun, moon, and stars continue on their appointed circuit of the heavens, so long will Israel abide near to the heart of God. He will never repudiate His covenant.

The inspired word was also spoken: "The Lord shall make thee the head, and not the tail." Deuteronomy 28:13. In almost every field of endeavor the superior talents of this people are recognized; while in spite of serious handicaps, and out of all proportion to their actual numbers, they rapidly rise to distinction. Throughout ancient and modern history, members of this race have made conspicuous contributions to the statesmanship and leadership of the nations; while during the nineteenth and twentieth centuries the *Who's Who* of America, England, France, Italy, Germany, Russia, and other nations presents an extended list of Jews who have served with rare ability in high office. Among these stand Baron Rothschild and Lord Beaconsfield, and at the other extreme in political science, Karl Marx, the father of sovietism.

Consider also the "famous musicians

of a wandering race"—Mendelssohn, Rubinstein, and scores of others. There, too, are such scientists as William Herschel, Albert Einstein, and the Jewish physicians who developed the use of insulin, digitalis, cocaine, salvarsan, the Wassermann test, and a serum against meningitis. Others discovered the sub-

Another racial characteristic was also suggested in the prediction, "Thou shalt lend unto many nations, and thou shalt not borrow." Deuteronomy 28:12. Here is foreshadowed the rare financial talent of Abraham's seed. In numerous countries during the Middle Ages, Christians were forbidden by canon law to lend

is darkness, intolerance, and bondage. Testifying to its influence in his *Voice of Jerusalem*, Israel Zangwill observes:

"From century to century, even unto this day, through the fairest regions of civilization, the Bible, written entirely by Jews, dominates existence; its vision of life molds states and societies, its text confronts us on every hand, it is an inexhaustible treasury of themes for music and pictures. Its psalms are more popular in every country than the poems of the nation's own poets. Beside this one Book in its infinite editions . . . all other national literature seems 'trifles light as air.'"

From the pen of the distinguished Daniel Webster comes this just eulogy:

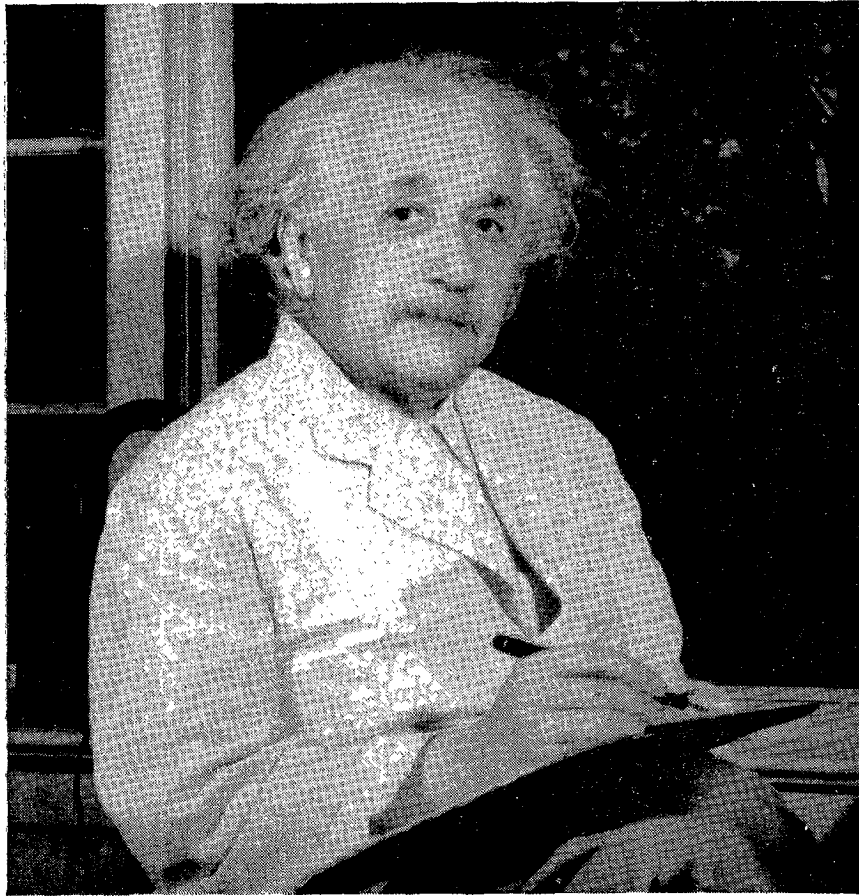
"The Hebrew Scriptures I regard as the fountain from which we draw all we know of the world around us, and of our own character and destiny as intelligent, moral, and responsible beings. . . . We are indebted to the Jewish nation for revealed religion, for the most important blessings and refinements of civilized life, and for all well-grounded hopes of immortal bliss beyond the grave."—Quoted in *The Influence of the Jews Upon Civilization*, by Jacob Gartnerhaus, page 23.

Nor should we omit the tribute paid to "The Book of a Thousand Tongues" by that prince of war correspondents, Colonel Frederick Palmer:

"The Book of a Thousand Tongues has given the world the greatest of civilizations, which we like to think is at its best in America. The agnostic, who holds that the Old Testament is only tribal folklore and that the New is founded on the gospel of an itinerant dreamer under the spell of an illusion, is himself bred through centuries of background into the Christianity he criticizes. His thought, and the moral and spiritual side of his conduct, have been irresistibly shaped by the supreme inheritance which is the atmosphere that he breathes.

"But for the Book of a Thousand Tongues, the northern 'Aryans' might still be living in stinking wattled huts and clad in filthy untanned skins; and the rest of Europe continuing the Dark Ages in unbroken decadence, with the population kept down by massacres and scourges. Our own country might still be an undeveloped land of Indian tepees with medicine men making magic and Indian braves in their war feathers dancing around the painted post."—*Ibid.*, page 22.

Without the Bible there would be no Christianity; and as we appreciate its divine message, so we would freely express our debt of gratitude to the people of the covenant through whom the Book of God was given to the world.



OFFICIAL U. S. NAVY, GALLOWAY

Albert Einstein, the world's foremost mathematician and originator of the relativity theory.



WIDE WORLD

Scientist and Jewish leader, Dr. Chaim Weizmann, leader of the modern Zionist movement and discoverer of the explosive TNT.

stances called "vitamins,"—the cause and cure of pellagra,—together with numerous startling disclosures that have helped to revolutionize the science of medicine. Of the thirty-eight Germans who have been awarded the Nobel prize, 29 per cent are Jews.

money on interest. Taking advantage of this fact, the Jews gradually became the moneylenders and bankers of Europe. It was Jewish gold that outfitted the fleet of Columbus and sent him on his voyage to discover America. It was Jewish gold from the Rothschilds of England that brought Napoleon to defeat at Waterloo. It was also gold from Haym Salomon, Aaron Levy, and other Jewish merchants of New York and Philadelphia that sustained Washington's colonial army in the darkest days of the Revolutionary War.

In modern America the once chosen people have extensive interests in the dry goods and clothing business, theater ownership and management, the moving-picture industry, and numerous other enterprises.

But the greatest contribution of the Jews to our world and to civilization is the Bible. Beside this gift, all others fade into insignificance. Where the Book is esteemed there is light, justice, and liberty; where it is scorned, there

Do Good People Go to HEAVEN?

Embarrassing Implications of a Popular Belief



by WILLIAM G. WIRTH

THERE can be no denying the fact that the belief of good people going to heaven immediately after death is a pleasing, comforting conception. On the other hand, it is not so consoling if the departed loved one lived a wicked life and must needs go elsewhere.

Let me assure the reader at once that at death the good person does not go to heaven, nor does the bad one go into hell-fire. This is upon the testimony of the Bible, the final authority of truth.

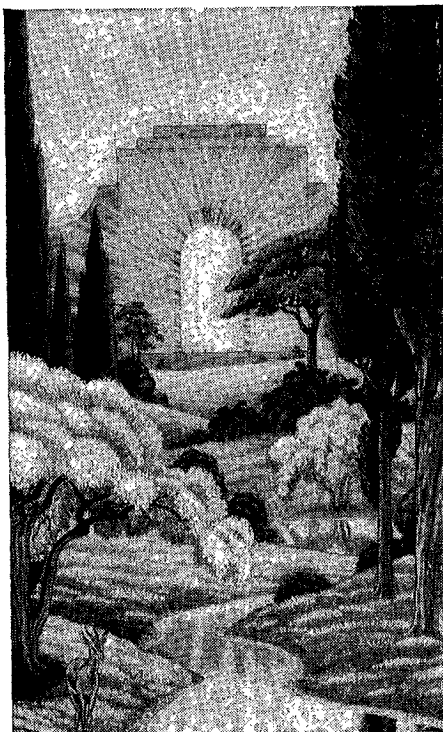
If the all-too-popular teaching is true that we live on in a conscious state after death, we are confronted with certain questions that cause deep embarrassment. For instance, why, if it is true that we go straight to heaven or hell at death, should the Scriptures speak of a definite day of judgment still in the future? To the philosophers in the midst of the Areopagus Paul the apostle declared: "He hath appointed a day, in the which He will judge the world in righteousness by that Man whom He hath ordained; whereof He hath given assurance unto all men, in that He hath raised Him from the dead." Acts 17:31. The man of Tarsus again affirmed this truth when he solemnly reminded Felix, the Roman governor, of "judgment to come." Acts 24:25. The very fact that God has "appointed a day" of judgment indisputably shows that this must be apart from the death of individual men and women.

Consider also the doctrine of the second coming of Christ, so pronouncedly mentioned in both the Old and the New Testament. If the closing of our eyes in death is the opening of the gates to endless heavenly life, what need is there for the Lord's second coming? The essential purpose of the Redeemer's return is to gather the saved to their eternal home. Why do this if, individually and progressively in time, they have been, are, and will be welcomed to heaven? If there is something wrong here, Jesus corrects it with His blessed, comforting words: "Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in Me. In My Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive

you unto Myself; that where I am, there ye may be also." John 14:1-3.

Caught in the inspiration of this assuring truth, Paul wrote: "I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope. For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with Him. For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep. For the Lord Himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the Archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord. Wherefore comfort one another with these words." 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18.

It is to be noted that the apostle here speaks of the resurrection of those who are "asleep" in death. This properly raises the question: Why have a resurrection if we go at once, when breath ceases, to the gloryland?



The pearly gates of the New Jerusalem do not open to the righteous at death but at the coming of Jesus Christ.

In John 11 we read of the death of Lazarus, a believer and a good man. He had been in the grave four days when the Master of life called him forth to resume his sojourn on this earth. "When Jesus came, He found that he had lain in the grave four days already." Verse 17. How it thrills us when we read of the great miracle: "Then they took away the stone from the place where the dead was laid. And Jesus lifted up His eyes, and said, Father, I thank Thee that Thou hast heard me. And I know that Thou hearest Me always: but because of the people which stand by I said it, that they may believe that Thou hast sent Me. And when He thus had spoken, He cried with a loud voice, Lazarus, come forth. And he that was dead came forth, bound hand and foot with graveclothes: and his face was bound about with a napkin. Jesus saith unto them, Loose him, and let him go. Then many of the Jews which came to Mary, and had seen the things which Jesus did, believed on Him." Verses 41-45.

If the popular belief that upon death we enter our eternal reward be true, then it would be a matter for regret that Lazarus should have been returned to the troubles and sorrows of this present life. Indeed, it would have been rather unkind of the Saviour to put poor Lazarus in the role of a Tantalus, most aggravatingly withdrawing from him the supernal joys that so temptingly were about him. But we need not extend sympathy to the man of Bethany, for he was not in heaven during those four days. He was truly dead, and death means "without life." How strange it is that the enemy of truth has befuddled us with the illogical idea that death means life, and, remarkably enough, more of it.

Let us with good Christian sense settle it that death means death, and that it will take a resurrection to give us life. It would be absurd—and God is not absurd—to have a resurrection if we go to heaven as soon as we die. It would not speak for divine efficiency. Said the Galilean: "Marvel not at this: for the hour is coming, in the which all that are in the graves shall hear His voice, and shall come forth; they that have done good, unto the resurrection of life; and they that have done evil, unto the resur-

(Continued on page 14)

AFRICA is rich in many natural resources, particularly gold and diamonds. About 35 per cent of all the gold dug from the earth in the past century has come from the mines of Africa. The proportion of diamonds is much higher. These valuable stones have been, and still are, found in great quantities along the lower reaches of the Orange River. The greatest hole in the earth made by man is found at Kimberley. It is more than a mile in circumference and is about two thousand five hundred feet deep. From this hole the world has been enriched by millions of dollars through the finding of great quantities of diamonds.

But all the diamonds of Africa are not found in the precious stones that come from mother earth. Souls who have found the light of God are more precious in His sight than either diamonds or gold. Of this the Lord declares:

"I will make a man more precious than fine gold; even a man than the golden wedge of Ophir." Isaiah 13:12.

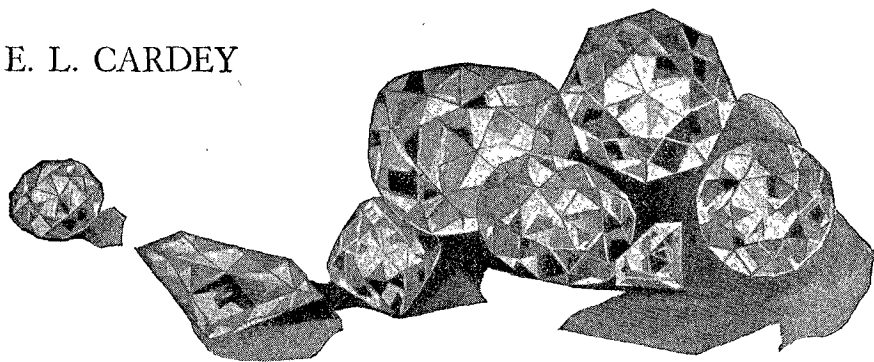
Our Voice of Prophecy Bible studies found such a living diamond, "more precious than fine gold," on one of the diamond diggings of western Cape Province, South Africa. Here there are many small mining operations, sometimes carried on by single individuals or by small companies. On one of these diggings a European man—Afrikaans-speaking—had been working for some years. His wife and children lived there with him in poor circumstances, for the mines had produced but few diamonds, mostly of the industrial type.

One day an Afrikaans magazine fell into their hands, and they saw an article from The Voice of Prophecy Bible School on the subject of the soon coming of Jesus. With this article was a statement that free literature and Bible lessons would be sent to all those who desired to study the Bible in a systematic way. This man and his wife enrolled at once in the Afrikaans language.

From the first they proved to be earnest seekers after truth. Willingly they accepted the light of God as the Bible became a new book to them. The studies found the man to be a slave to the tobacco habit and of strong drink; but when the evils of these habits were pointed out, he at once took a firm stand on God's side, and the Lord gave him complete and abiding victory. But the real test of loyalty to God came when they learned from the study of the Bible that the seventh day of the week is God's Sabbath, and that He commands His people to obey Him and keep all the Ten Commandments, the fourth included. After this great truth was made clear to the family, days of mental con-

AFRICAN DIAMONDS

by E. L. CARDEY



flict followed, for the man could not continue working in this place and keep the Sabbath.

While the family was deeply considering what to do, a near-by merchant offered the husband a good position with a substantial salary. It was the best salary that had been offered him in some years, but with the offer was the provision that he must work on the Sabbath.

At this time he had never met a person who was keeping the Sabbath of God, and so could get no counsel or help from man; but he had found the wisdom of God more certain and sure than all the wisdom of men. Therefore when this good financial offer came to him, he and his wife took the whole matter to the Lord in prayer. There and then they made their decision to be true to God. Of this experience he wrote to our office:

"In our abject poverty we have declined this good offer of a permanent position. Our trust is in the Lord, and because we are very weak we need your earnest prayers. We cannot disobey God and break His Sabbath. Pray that the dear Lord will make provision for us so that we will not break the Sabbath day by working on it for a living. We would like also to request that if any of your workers are coming this way, they come to see us and strengthen us in our new-found faith."

When this letter was read at our morning prayer circle, our hearts were greatly touched. We suggested that we take up an offering among our twenty-five workers, and send a little present of money to sustain him and his family until other and more permanent arrangements could be made for his work, where he could keep God's Sabbath day. Everyone had a part in the offering, and we were able to send him a check for about \$35.

Within a week a letter was received from this good man, with the check enclosed, which showed his true worth and proved that he was indeed one of God's true diamonds. He wrote:

"When your letter and check came we were overcome with joy and happiness. To think that you would be so kind to us, whom you had never met, really touched our hearts very deeply. We know that we have found Christian friends who feel deeply the trials that others pass through. This money, of course, would be a great help to us; but we cannot accept it. We have found such joy in the light that has come to us that we want you to take this money and send out more Bible lessons to those who have never heard the great truths you have taught us. This will be our little contribution to God's work. The Lord will provide for us the things we need to live on. Of this we are confident. May God bless The Voice of Prophecy work and its staff."

Then our hearts were touched as never before, and we said: Here indeed is one of God's diamonds, far more precious than all the diamonds of Africa.

NOTE: Missionary Cardey is anxious to obtain several thousand copies of the *Signs of the Times* weekly for distribution to the large number of persons who are now studying The Voice of Prophecy Bible Correspondence Course in South Africa. Donations for this purpose should be addressed: Signs-for-Africa Fund, *Signs of the Times*, Mountain View, California.

As our physical life is sustained by food, so our spiritual life is sustained by the word of God. And every soul is to receive life from God's word for himself. As we must eat for ourselves in order to receive nourishment, so we must receive the word for ourselves. We are not to obtain it merely through the medium of another's mind. We should carefully study the Bible, asking God for the aid of the Holy Spirit, that we may understand His word. We should take one verse, and concentrate the mind on the task of ascertaining the thought which God has put in that verse for us. We should dwell upon the thought until it becomes our own, and we know "what saith the Lord."—E. G. White.

THIS AMAZING CENTURY

The Age of Progress, Invention, and Universal Education Foretold by Prophecy

Great Prophecies for Our Time—19

Why the Sudden Accession of Knowledge Has Come in Our Day

by ARTHUR S. MAXWELL

SINCE the dawn of the twentieth century there has come about, in every field of human activity, an amazing acceleration. It is as though someone suddenly had pushed the throttle of life to "full speed ahead!"

To quote an editorial statement in *The Saturday Evening Post*: "Invention is shattering precedent in thousands of ways—unheard-of new materials coming into being—old ideas of speed and costs and efficiency fading into history. . . . Men in industry accomplishing undreamed-of miracles. Men of science casting into the discard the methods we called modern. Unbelievable speed is replacing what we called speed. New materials, new ways, progress."

Speed and still more speed is the order of the day. Giant bombers and cargo planes, weighing thirty tons and more, hurtle through the air at more than three hundred miles an hour. Jet planes are already supersonic, rivaling the speed of sound, while radio carries the human voice with the speed of light.

This is indeed the Air Age, the Electric Age and, most significant of all, the Atomic Age. It is an age of research into all the secrets of nature—a veritable golden era of material progress and wonders innumerable.

It is hard to believe that such extraordinary developments have taken place in so short a time; and harder still to realize what a different world it was only a hundred years ago. In the 1840's there were no airplanes, no cars, nor any sort of machine operated by an internal combustion engine. There were no trucks, no tractors, no tanks. There were no electric lights, nor any electrical appliances. One who had gas installed in his house was regarded as a plutocrat. Railroads were in their infancy, and many people were still afraid of them. The sailing ship was sovereign of the seas, although a few primitive steamboats were making their appearance



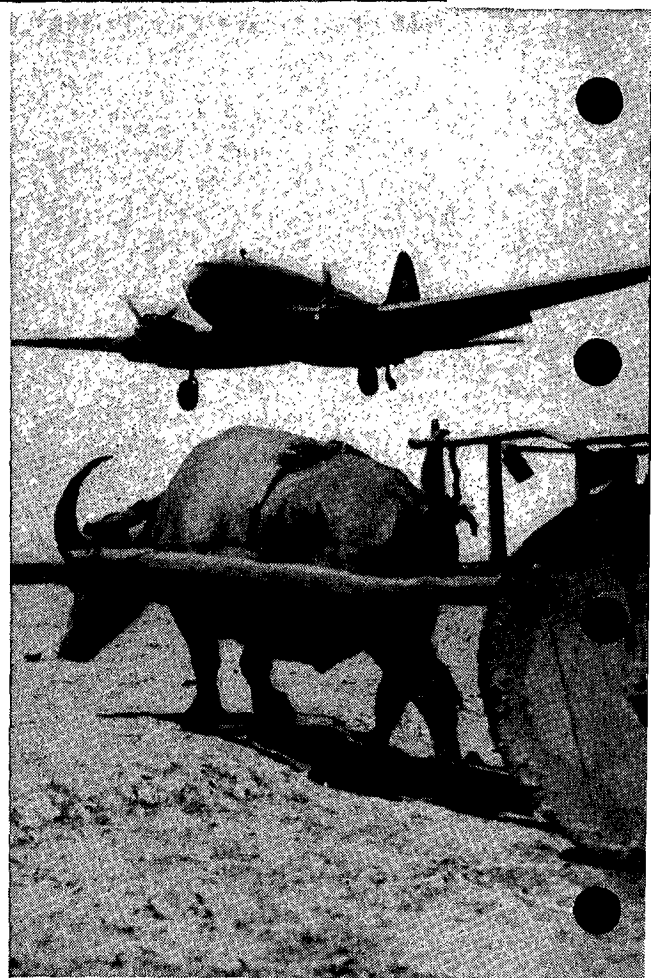
Airplanes, such as these purchased by the Egyptian government, are being used in the suppression of dope smuggling.

amid much public excitement. There were no thick newspapers with pictures in two or more colors; no telegraph or telephone. Antiseptics and anesthetics were unknown, and a visit to a hospital in those days must have been a nightmare indeed. Surgery was in the experimental stage, while dentistry and ophthalmology were barely beginning to open the way for scientific research in these fields. There was no antitoxin or insulin or sulfanilamide, or even a clinical thermometer!

After Darkness, Light

The fact is that a hundred years ago this world of ours was beginning to emerge from the mental torpor in which it had been languishing for ages. It was like a butterfly issuing from a chrysalis in which it had been mysteriously imprisoned from time immemorial. Indeed, prior to 1800, most people, even in so-called civilized lands, were living in much the same way that their forefathers had lived for thousands of years. They were still traveling from place to place on horseback; still plowing their fields with a single horse or ox; still for the most part living in houses without running water or bathrooms; still reading by candlelight; still doing most of their work laboriously by hand.

Our progress in this amazing century has not been confined, however, to mechanical contrivances. There has been a most extraordinary development in the realm of public education, with



The old and the new in China. A water buffalo pulls a cart across an airfield as this twin-engined plane soars in for a landing.

a consequent decrease of illiteracy. Less than a hundred years ago most of the inhabitants of the world, even in so-called civilized countries, could neither read nor write. One has only to turn to the graphic descriptions given by Charles Dickens of the English schools of the nineteenth century, to realize how appallingly incompetent they were; and even then only a small proportion of the population was able to benefit by the limited instruction bestowed. The rest had to rely on such scraps of infor-

mation as they could pick up from their more fortunate friends. The elaborate system of colleges and schools familiar to us today, with compulsory free education for everyone, is a boon of recent acquisition. And it has resulted in an astonishing increase of knowledge and an expansion of vision never known before. It has opened up new fields of study and extended the horizons of human thought beyond any previous conception. Light has burst upon the mind of man after centuries of darkness.

Coincident with this expansion of knowledge and invention has been the complete exploration of the entire globe. A century ago much of the earth was enveloped in mystery, and only the most daring spirits set sail for lands afar. True, explorers of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries had acquainted many people in the old world with the existence of great new territories beyond the seas, and occasionally ships would sail into home ports with all manner of strange tales and trophies from distant countries; but, for the most part, people were content to gossip about these unusual things and then continue with the regular routine of their lives.

Not until the nineteenth century was well advanced was any organized effort made to map the continents and chart the seas and open up their possibilities for trade and profit. Once this was started, however, there grew up fierce competition on the part of the empire-building nations and an eagerness to "get there first with the flag," which soon carried the rival explorers to the very ends of the earth. Colonization then spread on an unprecedented scale. Men of courage and enterprise pressed their way through virgin forests, followed unknown rivers to their sources, crossed deserts, climbed mountains, and traversed prairies and plateaus never before seen by man. Great missionaries, like Livingstone and Moffat, Carey, Morrison, and J. Hudson Taylor, pioneered for God in Africa, India, and China. They were followed in turn by thousands of others of equal Christian fortitude who were spurred on by the power of Christ's love to carry the gospel to "earth's remotest nation."

Today, with the advent of the airplane, the work of discovery has been practically completed. The last lost race—in the interior of New Guinea—has been found. Even the poles have been visited so often that an expedition to the arctic regions arouses no special public interest. As Jules Verne once wrote: "There are no more impassable deserts, no more unfathomable seas, no more inaccessible mountains."

Even the deserts and jungles of Africa

are stirring with sights and sounds never before experienced. For Africa has become the bridge between America and Asia, and particularly between America and the Near East. Across new highways, cut through vast wildernesses, vast quantities of supplies moved to Egypt, Persia, India, and Russia during the recent war. Over primeval forests, dotted here and there with new airfields, giant planes are constantly flying, startling the native peoples with the roar of their motors and the gleam of their wings.

In the South Seas similar events have been proceeding. The smallest atolls have assumed immense and totally unexpected significance as possible air bases for future military or commercial use.

Thus the closing phases of modern world exploration are being completed with a thoroughness no one ever contemplated when it first began. The final frontiers are being reached and conquered.

Marvelous as all these developments undoubtedly are, however, the wonder of them is eclipsed by the fact that they were already foreseen by one of God's prophets more than two millennia ago. In other words, this amazing century is but another response of history to the voice of prophecy.

Turning to the twelfth chapter of the book of Daniel, we hear the angel of the Lord addressing the prophet in these words: "But thou, O Daniel, shut up the words, and seal the book, even to the time of the end: many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall be increased." Verse 4.

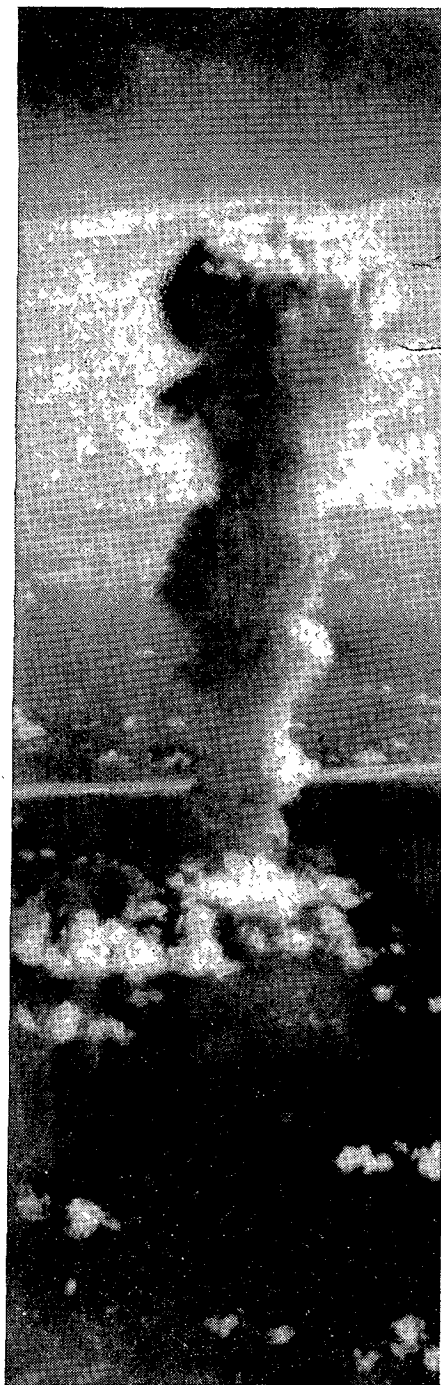
The prediction finds its fulfillment in all the swift movements of travel and transport, all the unprecedented progress in science and invention, all the unexampled enlightenment of the masses, which are such outstanding features of this marvelous age.

A Vision of Our Time

"Many shall run to and fro," said the prophet. What a perfect description, in the simplest possible language, of the ceaseless movement of humanity in this restless age! Surely if, in vision, Daniel glimpsed the thousands of planes now speeding from city to city and from continent to continent; if he beheld the liners and tankers, the battleships and destroyers, moving swiftly over the oceans; if he saw the endless procession of passenger and freight trains roaring over the great steel roads that belt the continents; it must have seemed to him as though the whole population were in agitation, constantly on the move.

"And knowledge shall be increased." How accurately these five prophetic

words summarize all the scientific progress of our generation! Perhaps the prophet was permitted to behold the innumerable colleges and schools that now bring the treasures of learning within reach of the entire population. Perhaps there passed before him the flood tide of literature—of books and periodicals—now pouring from the printing presses of the world, and being eagerly devoured by multitudes. Then, too, he may have been shown the army of chemists now at work in their laboratories, searching out the secrets of nature; the specialists in electricity and aerodynamics bringing to light resources hidden for centuries; the archaeologists at work digging amidst the remains of buried civilizations, producing vital evidence to prove the accuracy of Bible his-



JOINT TASK FORCE, ACME
The rapid scientific advance of man has led up to the atom bomb, the product of extensive research and experimentation.

tory; and the astronomers with their sixty-inch, one-hundred-inch, and two-hundred-inch telescopes, peering ever farther into the mysteries of the universe, and establishing before the last generation of man the most overpowering proof of the reality and majesty of God. How better could Daniel have described his vision than in those meaningful words: "And knowledge shall be increased"?

It is important to notice the time when the fulfillment of this prophecy was to take place. It was not to happen in the days of Babylon, or Medo-Persia, or Greece, or Rome. It was not to follow immediately upon the breakup of the Roman Empire. This running to and fro, this universal increase of knowledge, was reserved for a special period of world history described as "the time of the end."

"Shut up the words, and seal the book, even to the time of the end," was the divine pronouncement.

To no other period in history than ours could these prophetic words be properly applied. As already noted, many Bible prophecies announce a time of trouble to occur prior to the final consummation. These words, however, suggest that, simultaneously, there will be an unexampled increase of knowledge. Both events will indicate that the time of the end has arrived.

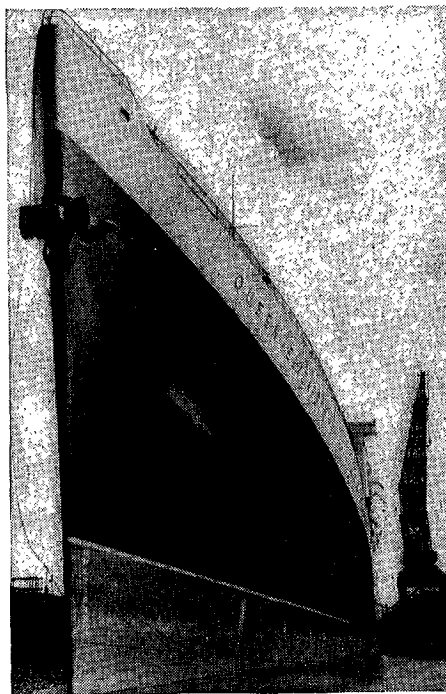
If we were surrounded by every comfort and convenience that science could provide, and at the same time there was not a cloud of trouble on the horizon, then indeed we might reasonably conclude that there had been some mistake about the interpretation of Daniel's prediction, and that "the end" of which he spoke must yet be far in the future. But when we see about us a world full of confusion and perplexity,—and all this trouble coming about at the very climax of scientific research and accomplishment,—then we may know, from the mouth of these two witnesses, that the great prophecy of Daniel 12:4 has its application in our day, and that the unfulfilled prophecies that are closely related to the closing events of this earth's history cannot be long delayed.

The question will no doubt arise in many minds, Why was the era of world enlightenment delayed until "the time of the end"? Why did not the increase of knowledge come in the days of Christ, or in the time of the Reformation? Why did the vast areas of the earth's surface remain unknown and undiscovered until the eve of the twentieth century? Did it happen by chance, or did it come about in this way through another of the deep designs of Providence?

Without doubt, God has been behind it all. He knows "the end from the be-

ginning," and all down the ages He has been planning for this hour. He knew that the population of the world would multiply to fill the continents and spread forth to earth's remotest bounds. He has been fully aware also of the magnitude of the problem of taking the gospel of His love to these vast hosts of humanity, and of the fact that this task must be completed before His eternal kingdom of peace can be established. Consequently, as the climax of history has come nearer, He has opened up long-closed resources of power; He has drawn aside the curtains that have hidden the secrets of science; and He has made available a thousand hitherto unimagined means and methods of quickly finishing His work in the world.

No, it is by no accident that this planet has suddenly become so small that it can be circumnavigated in less than a



INTERNATIONAL
What a contrast there is between the "Queen Elizabeth" and the small, insecure boats used in ocean travel only a few decades ago!

week; that the entire human race has been brought within range of a single voice; or that everyone is thinking today in global terms and studying global maps. Behind all these amazing developments a divine hand is at work; for God, too, has global interests and global responsibilities in this great hour.

The greatest words ever spoken tell us that "God so loved the world." John 3:16. And because God so loved,—not one nation, not one hemisphere, but the whole globe,—His message of mercy will be sent to all men everywhere around the earth. As Christ Himself said, "This gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come." Matthew 24:14.

From this latter verse it is clear that when the end of earthly history shall come—as one day it surely will—it will not come alone in central Europe, or in southern Asia, or in North America. It will come everywhere at the same time; and every nation, kindred, tongue, and people will be immediately and directly affected.

For this reason—because this grand climax is fast approaching, and indeed is near, "even at the doors"—God is seeking to arouse mankind to perceive the seriousness of this solemn hour and the one hope of deliverance. Hence the increase of knowledge and the running to and fro; hence all the wonderful discoveries and inventions of our time. Hence also the global maps and the global thinking and the new and wider understanding of the world and its destiny.

Now, too, we can discern the profound purpose behind the great missionary movement of the past hundred years. It was indeed God-planned and God-inspired because the time of the end had arrived.

During this amazing century more missionary effort has been put forth and more money expended upon missionary enterprises than in all the years since Pentecost. From that historic day in 1793 when William Carey set forth on his lonely journey to India, until this present hour, there has been one continuous and ever-increasing effort on the part of Christian people to fulfill the Master's commission to go into all the world and "preach the gospel to every creature." Mark 16:15. Today the messengers of the cross are to be found in every country on the face of the earth, preaching in almost every language known to man, while the radio waves carry God's last message to a dying world.

The Miracle of the Bible

Moreover, during this same remarkable period the miracle of Bible translation and distribution has also been accomplished. Beginning in 1804, in the midst of the Napoleonic wars, the Bible societies expanded their efforts until they had built up one of the largest publishing businesses in the world. Indeed, in less than a century and a half, they have accomplished the greatest publishing feat in the story of books. They have taken a volume that has been subjected to more criticism and bitter enmity than any other book that ever came from a press, and they have made it better known and more popular than any other publication of any sort or description. More than that, they have given the Bible the largest circulation any book ever enjoyed, the grand total

(Continued on page 14)



Truth for Youth

MAKING WRONGS RIGHT

by ROBERT H. PIERSON

THE three most difficult words to say in any language are: "I am sorry." It takes real courage to go to a friend or acquaintance whom we have wronged or hurt and say: "I am sorry. Please forgive me."

Frederick the Great once wrote to his government: "I have just lost a battle, and it is all my fault." Of this confession Goldsmith said: "His confession shows more greatness than his victories."

Yes, it *does* take real courage and real character to accept responsibility for mistakes and in true humility go to the offended one, asking for pardon. But the Holy Scriptures say, "Confess your faults one to another" (James 5:16); and if we are desirous of having everything right between us and our fellow men so that we may worship God in all clear conscience, we must do that.

The Greek word *par-ap'-to-mah*, translated "faults" in this text in James, includes both willful transgression and unintentional error. So, whether we have purposely or unintentionally injured someone, we are to go to that individual, confess our fault, and ask forgiveness. If our wrong act is known to others, then to those who are involved the confession should be made. A sin against one's family should be confessed in the family circle. In other words, the confession should be as broad as the knowledge of sin.

Genuine sorrow for sin will lead to specific confession. The penitent will acknowledge the particular sin of which he is guilty. Some try to ease their conscience by confessing in a general way, by acknowledging that they are sinners; but they do not go to the root of the evil in their experience.

"True confession is always of a specific character, and acknowledges particular sins. . . . All confession should be definite and to the point, acknowledging the very sins of which you are guilty."—*Steps to Christ*, page 43.

In the time of Nehemiah, Israel "stood and confessed their sins, and the iniquities of their fathers." Nehemiah 9:2.

In Leviticus 5:5 we read: "It shall be, when he shall be guilty in one of these things, that he shall confess that he hath

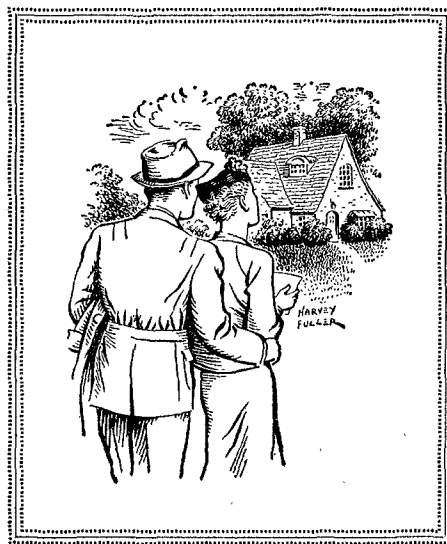
sinned in that thing." The man was to confess that he had sinned in *that thing*. It was *that thing* that counted.

From Acts 26:10, 11, we are further impressed that our confessions of wrong should be specific; for here Paul mentions definitely the sins of which he had been guilty.

For a few moments let us turn our attention to a thought or two in Matthew 5:23, 24: "Therefore if thou bring thy gift to the altar, and there rememberest that thy brother hath aught against thee; leave there thy gift before the altar, and go thy way; first be reconciled to thy brother, and then come and offer thy gift."

Genuine sorrow for sin will lead one to make right his wrongs, even though he may feel that the one whom he has wronged is by far the greater sinner.

"If there have been difficulties, . . . if envy, malice, bitterness, evil surmisings, have existed, confess these sins, not in a general way, but go to your brethren and sisters personally. Be definite. If you have committed one wrong and they twenty, confess that one as though you were the chief offender. Take them by the hand, let your heart soften under the influence of the Spirit of God, and say, 'Will you forgive me? I have not felt right toward you. I want to make right every wrong, that nought may stand registered against me in the books of heaven. I must have a clean record.'



Who, think you, would withstand such a movement as this?"

After we have made things right with our fellow men we must ask God's forgiveness, too. For all sin is primarily against God. When we sin against our brother, we sin against God, for Jesus has said: "Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these My brethren, ye have done it unto Me." Matthew 25:40. We are, therefore, to confess all of our sins to God and ask His forgiveness.

There are some offenses that are against God alone, and these should be confessed to Him only. Daniel in his earnest petition to heaven for wisdom and understanding prefaced it by saying: "I prayed unto the Lord my God, and made my confession." Daniel 9:4.

Ezra, in speaking to the tribes of Judah and Benjamin assembled in Jerusalem, urged the people to "make confession unto the Lord God." Ezra 10:11.

David, in his heart-born prayer of repentance, said: "Against Thee, Thee only, have I sinned." Psalm 51:4. From this we see that there are some confessions that are for the ear of God only. No one should ever bare his soul to another human being, except the one who has been sinned against.

Just now, as you meditate upon these practical thoughts from the Holy Scriptures, do you think of things in *your* life that need to be made right? If you carry things in your heart against any of your fellow men, or if you have wronged someone in any way and you have not made things right with the offended one, you cannot hope to have the peace in your heart that God wants you to have. The wise man says:

"He that covereth his sins shall not prosper: but whoso confesseth and forsaketh them shall have mercy." Proverbs 28:13.

THE life of Christ concerns Him who, being the holiest among the mighty, and the mightiest among the holy, lifted with His pierced hand empires off their hinges and turned the stream of centuries out of its channel, and still governs the ages.—*Jean Paul Richter*.



What did Jesus come to earth to do?
"The Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost." Luke 19:10.

What will happen unless men accept Christ's salvation?

"Whosoever believeth in Him should not *perish*." John 3:15.

What is the condition of those who do not follow in Christ's footsteps?

"Dead in trespasses and sins; wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience." Ephesians 2:1, 2.

What points out sins?

"Sin is the transgression of the law." 1 John 3:4. "I had not known sin, but by the law." Romans 7:7.

Who convicts us of our sins?

"When He [the Comforter, the Holy Spirit] is come, He will reprove ["convince," margin] the world of sin." John 16:8.

What appeal does God make to sinners?

"All things are of God, who hath reconciled us to Himself by Jesus Christ, and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation. . . . We pray you in Christ's stead, be ye reconciled to God." 2 Corinthians 5:18-20.

How is the reconciling goodness of God revealed?

"When we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of His Son." Romans 5:10. "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only-begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life." John 3:16.

To what does the goodness of God lead us?

"The goodness of God leadeth thee to *repentance*." Romans 2:4.

What are we to do to show our repentance and to relieve our minds of the depression of sin?

"If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." 1 John 1:9.

What practical evidence of repentance is required?

"If I have taken anything from any man by false accusation, I restore him fourfold. And Jesus said unto him, This day is salvation come to this house." Luke 19:8, 9.

NEW CREATURES IN CHRIST

What is to be our attitude to any who may have offended us?

"Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do." Luke 23:34. "Forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors." Matthew 6:12.

Through what divine attribute is salvation granted?

"God, who is rich in mercy, for His great love wherewith He loved us, even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by whose [margin] *grace* ye are saved)." Ephesians 2:4, 5.

How is salvation by grace received?

"Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved." Acts 16:31. "By grace are ye saved *through faith*." Ephesians 2:8.

What follows repentance, confession, and restitution?

"Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins." Acts 2:38. "The eunuch said, See, here is water; what doth hinder me to be baptized? And Philip said, If thou believest with all thine heart, thou mayest. And he answered and said, I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God." Acts 8:36, 37.

What does the word "baptize" mean?

Immersion.

How is the rite of immersion administered?

By the candidate's being placed under the water, and raised again. "They went down both *into the water*, both Philip and the eunuch; and he baptized him." Verse 38. "Jesus, when He was baptized, *went up* straightway *out of the water*." Matthew 3:16.

Free Bible Correspondence Course

Readers of the "Signs of the Times" who are especially interested in Bible study will be glad to know that a free Bible correspondence course is now available to them. There are no fees and no postage charges, and the only textbook is the word of God. For full particulars, write

The Editor

SIGNS OF THE TIMES
Mountain View, California

What does the rite of immersion commemorate?

The resurrection of Christ. "Buried with Him in baptism, wherein also ye are risen with Him through the faith of the operation of God, who hath raised Him from the dead." Colossians 2:12.

What is the significance of immersion?

Death to the old sinful life, and a rising to newness of life in Christ Jesus. "Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into His death? Therefore we are buried with Him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life. For if we have been planted together in the likeness of His death, we shall be also in the likeness of His resurrection." Romans 6:3-5.

At what age should immersion be administered?

At an age when the individual has sufficient understanding and experience to repent and believe.

What becomes of the sins which are symbolically washed away in baptism?

Christ Himself "bare our sins in His own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed." 1 Peter 2:24. "The blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanseth us from all sin." 1 John 1:7.

What results from this complete process?

"Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature." 2 Corinthians 5:17. "For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision availeth anything, nor uncircumcision, but a new creature." Galatians 6:15.

What is the process called?

"Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God. Nicodemus saith unto Him, How can a man be born when he is old? . . . Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God." John 3:3-5.

What course of life does the converted Christian follow?

"We also should walk in newness of life." Romans 6:4. "Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that ye should follow His steps: who did no sin, neither was guile found in His mouth." 1 Peter 2:21, 22.

(Continued on page 15)

SIGNS of the TIMES

THE LAST HOPE OF HUMANITY

by
ERNEST LLOYD

STUDENTS of affairs and leaders of thought the world over are profoundly impressed with a sense of solemnity at the present condition of humanity. There is a consciousness among all sorts of people that we have reached the end of an era, that we stand at the dawn of a new and apocalyptic day of the Lord. No one can gauge exactly the outcome of present world conditions, but there is a conviction everywhere among serious thinkers that a new epoch is about to begin. Men are now conscious of a future filled with the most momentous events.

One writer tells us: "It is the midnight hour of the world." If you have ever been stranded at midnight you know what it means. The world is stranded. Where are its saviors? We have seen many self-styled saviors in the last fifty years bring forth panaceas and remedies of various kinds, with great claims for their efficacy to save mankind, but the results have been exploded theories and disappointing experiences.

There was a day when many people believed that the world would be saved by better economic conditions. But the salvation of mankind does not come through monetary changes or the readjustment of industrial conditions, nor through education or science. The current literature of the day reflects the thinking of leaders and educators, and the general conclusion is that no person and no group can do anything to save the world *now* except the Prince of Peace Himself. We have been fighting for years to end war, and we are still fighting. Historians like the late H. G. Wells tell us that another war will end civilization. They warn us that we have perhaps five years before the final crash.

There is no hope for humanity aside from the regenerating and saving power of our Lord Jesus Christ. He alone can bring true peace and soul satisfaction to humanity. He is the last hope of humanity. This is not the conviction of preachers only; it is the deliberate conclusion of many philosophers and scientists as well as many political and industrial leaders. And it is frequently admitted by even the current newspapers. How true it is: There is no other name under heaven whereby the world *can* be saved. This is the heart of the teachings of the New Testament.

Only the Lord Jesus Christ can bring

the desired solution to the world's problems. What authority do we have for the claim that He is equal to the tremendous problems of this midnight hour of the world's history? The authority of the Bible, which is the living word of God. Note carefully the first part of the first chapter of Ephesians. Then mark the words in the tenth verse, where God declares it to be His purpose "to *sum up all things* in Christ, the things in the heavens, and the things upon the earth." Revised Version. This is one of the greatest statements in the Bible concerning Jesus. God says in our text that He will "gather together in *one* all things in Christ." They will be included in Him, completed in Him, consummated in Him. History speaks of certain men as summing up a period, or a movement; but no man ever lived of whom it was seriously claimed that he summed up "*all things*."

Let us observe three fundamental reasons why all things are summed up in the Lord Jesus Christ:

1. *Christ sums up all truth.* There is some truth in false philosophies and in some false religions. There is some truth everywhere. But what is claimed for Christ is that in Him is the consummation of truth. He is the truth. Jesus did

not say He was *a* light of the world. He said He was *the* light of the world. He said: "I am . . . *the* truth." He was and is the source and personification of truth. "In whom are hid all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge." For two thousand years the teachings of Christ have been open to the world, and



Jesus Christ is humanity's hope for regenerating and saving power.



COMING IN THE NEXT ISSUE

in addition to the regular features:

THE MIRACLE OF EMIRAU	William H. Bergherm
I BELIEVE GOD	M. L. Rice
THE TRAGEDY OF JERUSALEM	Roy F. Cottrell
IMMORTALITY MAY BE OURS!	William G. Wirth
THE PASSING OF OUR GOLDEN AGE	Arthur S. Maxwell
THE GOLDEN RULE IN ACTION	Robert H. Pierson
RENEWING OUR MINDS	Frank H. Yost
GOD HELD BACK THE FROST	E. L. Cardey

He has yet to be convicted of the first error. The people who have interpreted Him, or, rather, misinterpreted Him, have made plenty of mistakes. "He was the only man," says James Hastings, "who never said 'perhaps,' who never balanced probabilities." Jesus Christ is God's last word to humanity. He will never be out of date. He will always be ahead of man. At the world's midnight hour men are at the door of the church asking for the true meaning of life and what is ahead for mankind. Jesus holds the answer. All our great problems are solved in and by Him who is the truth.

2. *Christ sums up all humanity.* He is not simply the world's greatest Teacher and Saviour. He is the *Son of man* as well as the Son of God. He came from above and took upon Himself the form of humanity. He is the sinless One and stands at the head of the human race. He belongs to all men, black, white, brown, and yellow. He is the all-inclusive, universal Man, and He alone can be the Saviour of humanity. Pilate never knew how truthfully he spoke when he stood at the side of the Christ and said to the rabble that waited to crucify Him: "Behold the Man!"

A man truly discovers himself and life's meaning when he comes to Jesus and becomes His follower. He finds life's fullness and completeness in Him. He discovers true satisfaction. He has found the answer to his greatest longings. This is because he has found his Creator, the One who alone knows the human heart and can satisfy its longings. He alone is humanity's Redeemer and Saviour. Our faith in Him will bring the answer to our highest hopes.

3. *Christ sums up all power.* He said to His disciples on one occasion: "All power is given unto Me in heaven and in earth." His power was demonstrated many times in the miracles He performed. In His first miracle, turning the water into wine at the marriage feast in Cana, the Lord manifested His creative power. In A. A. Brockington's book, *The Seven Signs*, appears this excellent paragraph: "Men had seen the grapes ripen on the vine; and they were tempted to say, as they are tempted now, 'It is the sun, and the air, the nature of the vine and the nature of the climate, that make the wine.'" Jesus comes and answers, 'Not so; I make the wine; I have been making it all along. The vines, the sun, and the weather are only My tools, wherewith I worked, turning rain and sap into wine; and I am greater than they. I made them; I do not have to depend on them; I can make wine from water without vines, or sunshine. Behold, and drink, and see My glory and power *without* the vineyard, since

you had forgotten to see it *in* the vineyard!"

So His power is unceasingly shown in the wonders of nature all about us. The extent of His power is beyond all human comprehension. He upholds all things, and by Him all things consist and subsist. "In Him we live, and move, and have our being." His wonderful power is also seen in the regeneration of men and women who have accepted Him as their personal Saviour and Friend. No influence in man's history is comparable to that of Jesus Christ. This also represents His power. Our greatest literature, our benevolent institutions, and our fine arts—all are permeated with the uplifting and saving influence of the world's Redeemer.

Christ is the only hope of mankind because He sums up all truth, all humanity, all power. Blessed are they who put their trust in Him, for they shall not be disappointed. He has promised humanity to return in person to this earth. He will not fail to keep that promise. There are more than two hundred fifty verses in the New Testament alone which support the promise of His second coming. The signs of His coming are all about us. How important that we "be ready" for that greatest of all events! He is coming soon—the Desire of Ages, the Hope of the world! He will establish His kingdom of everlasting peace and righteousness, "and sorrow and sighing shall flee away." Hasten on, glad day!

This Amazing Century

(Continued from page 10)

reaching well over a billion copies.

Of this vast total more than 305,000,000 have been distributed by the American Bible Society, 532,000,000 by the British and Foreign Bible Society, 139,000,000 by the National Bible Society of Scotland, and the balance by other smaller organizations.

These billion Bibles (including Bible portions) have been published in more than 1,050 languages. The whole Bible has been produced in 184; the New Testament in 227 more; and portions, consisting of at least one book, in 551 more. The remaining languages are those in which only portions of books have been printed.

During the latter part of the eighteenth century, before the first Bible Society was established, Charles Wesley composed that beautiful hymn which begins:

O for a thousand tongues to sing
My great Redeemer's praise!
The glories of my God and King,
The triumphs of His grace.

To Wesley this was, of course, but a

SIGNS of the TIMES

Advocating a return to the simple gospel of Christ, and a preparation for His imminent second appearing

EDITOR ARTHUR S. MAXWELL
ASSOCIATE EDITOR . . MERLIN L. NEFF
CIRCULATION MGR. . H. K. CHRISTMAN

RATES in U. S. A.: Single copy, one year . . \$1.75
Clubs of five or more to one address, each . . 1.50
To Canada and other countries taking extra postage:
Single copy, one year (U. S. funds) \$2.25
Clubs of five or more to one address, (U. S. funds) 1.75

Please make all checks and money orders payable to "Signs of the Times," Mountain View, California.

In requesting change of address, please give both old and new addresses.

No papers are sent except on paid subscriptions, so persons receiving the "Signs of the Times" without having subscribed may feel perfectly free to accept it.

dream. To the Christian church today it is a reality. In more than a thousand tongues the praises of Christ are sung each day around the world. The word of God is now available to more than 95 per cent of the world's population, and somewhere every morning, "while earth rolls onward into light," the voices of men, women, and children, belonging to every tribe on earth, are raised in praise and supplication to the Lord of glory.

In the words of John Ellerton—

As o'er each continent and island
The dawn leads on another day,
The voice of prayer is never silent,
Nor die the strains of praise away.

The establishment of Christian missions in all the world is the crowning achievement of this age of wonders, the supreme end for which all the increase of knowledge and the swift means of transportation and communication were ordered by divine providence. And the work of salvation will continue despite every obstacle that may seem to hinder its progress, through war and peace, through storm and sunshine, until the purpose of God has been accomplished and "earth's remotest nation has heard Messiah's name."

Then, when this gospel of the kingdom shall have been preached in all the world *as a witness* unto all nations, "then shall the end come."

Good People

(Continued from page 6)

rection of damnation." John 5:28, 29.

Harking back to the thought of judgment, someone will say that judgment comes at death, and that that is what Paul means. Were that so, it would involve God in a startling injustice. Human faith and its reward, human wrongs and their penalty, could not be kept in equitable balance by that kind of judgment. Ponder this as to both the righteous and the wicked. According to the

popular theory, Abel, when he died thousands of years ago, went at once to heaven. All these millenniums he has been favored with the glories of heaven, with no sorrow or trouble of any kind. But here is a Christian gentleman who died this year, a saint of God if ever there was one. It was no fault of his that he was born six thousand years later than Abel; yet, unfortunately and quite unjustly,—if the popular theory be true,—Abel has received far more of heaven than this present-day saint can experience.

Reflect again upon the case of Cain, who killed his brother Abel. At his death he, according to the popular error, went directly to hell, there to suffer for his crime. But here in our newspapers we read of a man electrocuted in the state prison for killing, not one man, as did Cain, but a number of men. How unfair that Cain should receive six thousand years of suffering for killing one man, while this present-day killer, with numerous murders to his discredit, should begin his punishment now.

Well, we can dismiss from our minds and hearts any condemnation of the divine ways. God is nothing if He is not just. Those words of Paul still stand, that He "will render to every man according to his deeds: to them who by patient continuance in well-doing seek for glory and honor and immortality, eternal life: but unto them that are contentious, and do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness, indignation and wrath." Romans 2:6-8.

It was precisely to be just and fair that God did not give us unconditional, inherent immortality. The reward and the punishment must in the nature of the case begin together; and if immortality is to be our priceless possession, it will be because we "seek" for it in God's way.

Light From the Bible

(Continued from page 12)

Through what experience does the Christian go through life?

"Grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ." 2 Peter 3:18. "This is the will of God, even your sanctification." 1 Thessalonians 4:3.

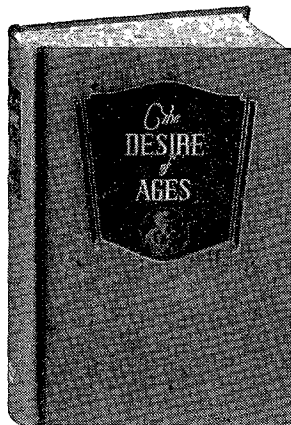
What divine Personality possesses the life of the Christian from baptism on?

"Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost." Acts 2:38. "God hath from the beginning chosen you to salvation through sanctification of the Spirit and belief of the truth." 2 Thessalonians 2:13.

for MAY 20, 1947

2 Masterpieces in Christian Literature

BOTH VOLUMES BY
ELLEN G. WHITE



THE DESIRE OF AGES

A rare gem of beauty and highest quality is this authentic word picture revealing the earthly life and ministry of our Lord. In well-chosen language the author touches every phase of His life and work, including birth, early childhood, baptism, ministry, sermons, parables, teachings, and, finally, those closing scenes—Calvary and the ascension.

The volume provides authoritative Biblical information about God's Son while on earth, and draws priceless spiritual lessons from His life and practical teachings. Indeed, it is a thrilling, masterful treatise, true in every detail, and written in language which even a child can understand.

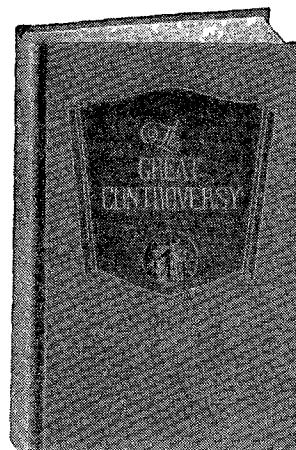
It will bring renewed hope and courage to your heart, just as it has to thousands of others. 867 inspiring pages. Illustrations are scattered in profusion throughout the book, and these pictures from artists and painters of renown are alone worth the entire cost. Two beautiful bindings with marbled edges to match are provided from which to make your selection.

THE GREAT CONTROVERSY Between Christ and Satan

This volume of nearly 800 pages presents the most wonderful and intensely interesting history of the great conflict between Christianity and the powers of evil that has ever been written. Special attention is given to the lives and work of such Christian martyrs and Reformers as Luther, Huss, Jerome, Wycliffe, the Waldenses, later English Reformers, and the Pilgrims who came to these shores seeking civil and religious freedom.

The battle for truth and right is traced down to our day. The reader will be astounded at the unerring accuracy with which the author sets forth the very world conditions we are now witnessing, although these scenes were first described by her as early as the year 1888.

This inspired history of world events continues down to the time when God declares, "It is finished," and Christ's second coming puts an end to sin and sinners, and the great conflict between right and wrong is forever settled. Here, truly, is a remarkable book. It is handsomely printed and bound. An abundance of historic pictures adds greatly to the reader's pleasure. Choice of two modern, attractive bindings.



END A ONE-CENT POSTAL CARD

A penny postal card brings you full details concerning examination arrangements, and the exact price of both volumes in your locality. DON'T DELAY, for there is absolutely no obligation in asking to see these amazingly helpful books. As publishers, we want you to have the privilege of examining them.

Pacific Press Publishing Assn., Mountain View, Calif.

Page Fifteen



God's FAMILY—

“FOR this cause I bow my knees unto the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, of whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named.” Ephesians 3:14, 15.

God has a wonderful family. Part of it is in heaven, and part is on earth. God is the Father. Jesus is the Elder Brother. In Him “the whole family in heaven and earth is named.” We become members of this family when we are truly converted and give our hearts to God.

Jesus has linked Himself to His family upon earth with ties that will never be broken. He partook of flesh and blood, and clothed Himself with humanity, that He might be one with us.

We have one common Father. When we belong to the family of God we are all brothers and sisters of Christ. There are no national divisions in this family for its members have risen above such narrow limitations. They have reached a broader vision of a world-wide endeavor for God. By the bonds of Christian love they are bound together, irrespective of nationality or place of birth. They are one family in Christ, with love as the controlling influence in every life.

It has been reported that a certain native in Africa came to a missionary one day and said: “You say that God in

How You May Join It

N. P. NEILSEN

heaven is *your Father?*” The missionary replied: “Yes, that is so.” Then the native continued: “And you say that this God is *my Father?*” “That is right,” said the missionary. “Well, then, *we be brothers!*” was the joyous exclamation.

This is true, and each member must share in the responsibilities of the family as well as in its blessings, each according to his ability. Each one will have a part to act, from the youngest to the oldest. We are not all called upon to do the same thing at the same time, but each one should be willing to do his part. Some members of the family of God will be permitted to remain at home, working for the advancement of the cause in their own neighborhood, while others will be asked to go beyond the bounds of civilization to carry the good news of salvation to tribes that have never yet heard the gospel story.

When the work is over, when the day is done, we shall all share in the reward if we have been faithful in our place and lot. What a wonderful home-coming it will be when the family of God shall meet together from all parts of this dark world!

Shortly after the close of World War I a large meeting of Christians was held in Europe. Persons were present who spoke different languages, and nine translators were needed. The Spirit of God was present, and hearts were melted. At the close of the meetings two of the men met to say good-by. They clasped hands and looked at each other, but could not talk together, for they knew not each other's language. They loved the same gospel message, and the same truth beat warmly in their hearts. Finally one said, “Hallelujah,” and the other responded, “Amen.” Thus they parted. These are words that belong to the family of God and are understood by all its members.

Dear reader, do you desire to belong to the family of God? Let me tell you that it is a good family to join. It is the best family on earth. But if you would become a member of this family you must be born again. There is no other way. Sin must be renounced. You must obey the rules of the family of God. Obedience is necessary.