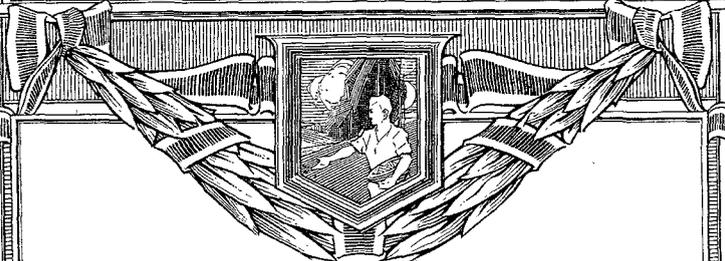


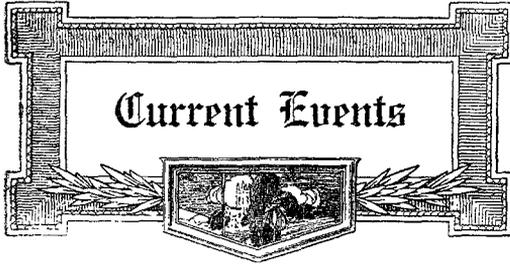


'THE FIELD
IS THE WORLD'



SIGNS OF THE TIMES

LIVE for something, be not idle—
Look about thee for employ!
Sit not down to useless dreaming—
Labour is the sweetest joy.
Folded hands are ever weary,
Selfish hearts are never gay,
Life for thee hath many duties—
Active be, then while you may.



THE French are conducting an ambulance service for wounded horses.

DURING 1916, convictions for drunkenness fell 50 per cent in England.

THE American Government is purchasing the entire silver output of the nation.

ONE thousand war-dogs are being collected to assist America's armies in Europe.

AN explorer declares that Africa has nearly seven hundred languages and dialects.

THE revenue of the United Kingdom for the last nine months of 1917 amounted to £400,650,303.

THE latest report declares that there are 290 different kinds of mosses to be found in England.

ALL field guns hereafter built in America will be so mounted that they can be used against aeroplanes.

THE Laplanders are declared to be the shortest people in Europe, the average height being under five feet.

IT is reported that Germany has succeeded in making the German language compulsory in Turkish schools.

THE latest pattern of the Lee-Enfield rifle weighs 8 lb. 10 ozs., and can hit with effect at any distance up to 2,500 yards.

BY means of an electric hair-cutting machine recently devised, the barber can do his work in from three to five minutes.

A MACHINE has been invented for imitating the noise of an aeroplane engine, with the object of alarming hostile troops.

MEMBERS of the famous family of Rockefeller have contributed £14,000,000 to United States war funds and Liberty loans.

DURING one night in 1917, 9.84 inches of rain fell in Somerset, England, recording the heaviest rainfall yet known in the British Isles.

DURING the war the personnel of the American navy has increased from 72,000 to 254,000, and the expenditure to £12,000,000 per month.

THE great Quebec bridge, just completed, is 3,229 feet long, contains 180,000,000 lb. of steel, cost £4,000,000, and took eleven years to build.

NO flowering plants have yet been discovered within the Antarctic circle, while in the Arctic regions there are 762 different species of flowers.

A NEW preventive for flies has been put in use in New York. The breeding places of the flies are sprinkled with a chemical which destroys the eggs.

IT is reported that owing to the general shortage of wheat caused by the war, white bread is likely to be abolished in the United States early in the year.

THE only animals left alive in the Antwerp Zoological Gardens, it is reported, are the elephants, which are now being used for military traction purposes.

THE subscriptions for a recent Canadian War Loan, in which £30,000,000 was asked for, amounted to over £80,000,000—a record loan for individual subscribers.

THE total number of prisoners captured by the British forces on all fronts up to November 26 last was 180,951, which included 127,102 Germans and 43,105 Turks.

THE British Empire, we learn, produces one-third of the world's coal, one-ninth of its copper, one-eighth of its iron, one-fifth of its lead, one-ninth of its silver, and one-half of its gold.

A NEW boat has been invented in France for use in shallow streams. It is driven by an aerial propeller and can carry twenty-five passengers and two tons of freight on a draught of but ten inches.

THE immense German ships *Vaterland* and *Kaiser Wilhelm II* are ready for service after being taken over by America at its entry into the war. It is expected that they will be used as transports for the American army.

THE use of the meat of whales, dolphins, and porpoises is being investigated by the British and American Governments. The flesh of whales resembles beef, although the colour is darker red. Each whale would furnish about five tons of meat.

WE read: From 1789 to 1909, 20,000,000 men fell in arms on the world's battle-fields or died on the march or in camp or in military prisons—a man every three minutes night and day for 120 years. But compare this with the fatalities in this great war.

TO save the lives of the pythons in the zoo at Chicago, a "food gun" has been invented. The jaws of the serpents are forced open and the food shot down their throats. Pythons are expected to eat once a month, but since two of the most valuable ones were refusing to eat, the above method of forcible feeding was devised.

THE Taube pattern of flying-machine was designed by an Austrian millionaire named Ettrich, who observed that when the zanonia tree shed its leaves they were carried for miles by the wind, and he naturally came to the conclusion that their buoyancy was due to their peculiar shape. The wings of the first Taube were fashioned after the zanonia leaf, and the present pigeon shape is only a slight modification.

Signs of the Times

Warburton, Victoria, January 28, 1918

Notes and Comments

Britain's Greatest Need

THE great sacrifices of man-life which Britain is now offering up make the care of the nation's children one of the most important problems of the time. Who are to take the places of the men who are being killed and crippled for life in the fearful contest now going on? Who but the children?

It is of paramount importance to the nation that every child shall have an opportunity to develop his talents and to fit himself for a sphere of usefulness. It is to the interest of all that these children be carefully nurtured, and that healthy minds and healthy bodies should be their possession. Many of them have lost the necessary parental control, and so have a double claim upon the nation's attention.

Just such a work as the needs of the situation demand is now being carried on by Dr. Barnardo's Homes in England. They have been in operation for fifty years, and during that time have taken charge of 84,000 children, many of whom have occupied important places in the Empire's activities. Of these boys 10,264 are serving at the front.

Since the war began, Dr. Barnardo's Homes have admitted 5,033 boys and girls, and are prepared to take charge of many more. They have the opportunities and the machinery, and are appealing now to the liberal hearted everywhere

for the necessary financial means to enable them to do this great work as it should be done. Gifts of all kinds—money, food, clothing, blankets, etc.—will be welcomed by the Honorary Director, Mr. William Baker, M.A., LL.B., at Headquarters, 18 to 26 Stepney Causeway, London, E. I.

Children, Crime, and Picture Shows

THE influence of picture shows on our growing youth is now commanding the attention of many persons outside the ranks of the "child-welfare" campaigners. The latter have been urging the importance of the matter for years, and to a very large extent parents and civil authorities have turned deaf ears to their warnings and remained incredulous. But the following item from the Melbourne *Argus* of January 9 indicates that the deleterious effects of the picture shows are forcing themselves upon the attention of some public officials:—

An inspector of police at Newcastle (N.S.W.) declared yesterday that 80 per cent of the crimes which have occurred in that district during the past few months have been committed by children. His statement was borne out by the state of affairs at the Children's Court that morning, when 23 children were charged with various offences, mostly housebreaking and stealing. Mr. Butler, S.M., attributed the children's crime to the influence of motion pictures and want of parental control.

And Mr. Butler was right. Pope says:

Vice is a monster of so frightful mien,
As to be hated needs but to be seen;
But, seen too oft, familiar with her face,
We first endure, then pity, then embrace.

That is what thousands of our children are doing to-day. They see the process of crime plainly depicted in the picture show, and then go and practise what

they have learned. The wise man said: "Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it."

The converse also is true: Bring up a child in the way he should not go, and when he is old he will almost surely be evil still. Show him virtue and teach him virtue, and he will learn to love it. Make him familiar with evil and it will become a part of him. In the education of the children lies the destiny of the race and of the age. The education which the young are getting to-day in the picture shows of the world is starting them on a course whose goal is almost sure to be ruin.

Trodden in the Dust

In one of his speeches against conscription, Dr. Mannix is reported to have declared that Ireland should no longer be "trodden in the dust of England." To ensure this, he was urging his hearers to vote against conscription. The only inference we can draw from such a remark is that the harder we make it for England the better it will be for Ireland. This is quite in keeping with the declaration of the leader of Sinn Feinism in Ireland, a Roman Catholic with a Spanish name—de Valera—that "all the enemies of England are our friends," and "if Germany comes along with arms, we will take them." It seems apparent from such remarks and from the statement of Mr. Lloyd George concerning the recent German attempt to land arms in Ireland (which nearly succeeded) that there is an understanding between England's enemies and the Sinn Feiners. Under such conditions it is not to be wondered at that arrests have been made in Ireland—the wonder is that England has been so tolerant, and made so few. Those that have been made have been denominated by England's enemies in Ireland and England as "silly arrests"; but in one of these the Secretary for Ireland says that "the Government captured evidence of the whole scheme of operations for an armed revolt." The captured document spoke of the—

Reorganisation of the Irish Volunteers to put them in a position to complete by force of arms the work begun by the men of Easter week. . . . The executive will not issue an order to take the field until they consider that the force is in a position to wage war on the enemy with reasonable hopes of success. At the right moment the order will go forth to strike. Then let it be done relentlessly.

And yet Ireland is to-day the most favoured country in all Europe. While England has conscripted her own manhood for military service and may for industrial work, and is using thousands of her women in munition factories and even at the front, Ireland knows little or nothing of the hardships which other peoples are enduring—and all because she is a part of the British Empire. While her men are free from conscription, Mr. Duke, the Secretary for Ireland, declares that 200,000 of them are "enrolled by avowed enemies of the Empire and of the Allies for the purpose of creating a new rebellion in Ireland. And yet the Government was accused of being tyrannical and provocative." If it were not for the influence of the Roman clergy in Ireland, the Sinn Fein movement would never have been born. Through that same influence it is being fanned into a flame there—and here. And the whole trouble comes through the political propensities of the Roman Church. Let her priests restrict their activities to the spiritual realm, and Sinn Feinism and every form of anarchy and rebellion against constituted authority by church members will be dissipated like the fog before the morning sun. God says of His servant: "He shall not strive, nor cry; neither shall any man hear his voice in the streets." Matt. 12:19. The admonition of our Saviour, if heeded, would make such Church conspiracies against Government impossible. He says: "Render therefore unto Cæsar the things which are Cæsar's; and unto God the things that are God's." Matt. 22:21. It is no part of gospel work, no part of the work of advancing Christ's kingdom in this world, to be fanning rebellion against governments or enrolling for active warfare against constituted authority. Those who do either are misrepresenting the Master whom they profess to serve.

Americans at War

LORD NORTHCLIFFE, who is now in America, has written an article under the above heading, which touches upon America's attitude toward the drink question. In the course of this article he says:—

They have a prompt and unexpected way of doing things in this country which is pleasingly refreshing. One morning I read that all saloons (drinking establishments) within five miles of Yophank (a new military camp) had been closed. Nothing more was said about it. No discussion preceded the matter. There were no abstruse calculations as to compensation. The United States is at war; saloons are not good for war; close them. That's all there was to it.

The *London Times*, in an editorial dealing with Lord Northcliffe's article, says:—

Saloons are highly popular institutions in most States of the Union; in some their proprietors and patrons wield no small political influence. But when all saloons within five miles of the great camp on Long Island were suddenly closed, the people did not dream of protest.

The *London Daily Mail* has this to say concerning the same, and heads its article, "No Beating About the Bush":—

Americans are just as devoted as we are to the liberty of the individual; but no nation is so energetic in putting individual liberty in its proper place when it threatens to hinder the public good. Their common sense, for instance, tells them that the sale of liquor in the neighbourhood of camps is a bad thing. They do not, as we do, look out at once for some method by which the question can be compromised. Instead, they close the saloons within a given radius, and there is no dodging of the issue, no agitation over "vested interests," no talk of "compensation." The saloons are simply closed.

America and Canada, which were already moving strongly toward complete prohibition of the liquor traffic, have taken action which means more than closing saloons within a certain radius from military camps. On September 8 last all the distilleries in the United States were compelled to stop the manufacture of alcoholic liquors for beverage purposes, in accordance with the Federal Food Control Act, which provides that "no foods, fruits, food materials, or feed shall be used in the production of distilled spirits for beverage purposes." This stops the manufacture of liquor for

the period of the war throughout the United States; and the House of Representatives has carried a resolution in favour of national prohibition being put into the national Constitution. When the Senate confirms the resolution, the great battle toward which the temperance forces of America have been working for a generation, and which the liquor forces have been fearing for the same time, will be on in deadly earnest. The majority of the States are now prohibition; but two-thirds of the States must declare for prohibition before prohibition can become a part of the Federal Constitution. All the Canadian provinces save one have adopted prohibition, and the Dominion has now taken action prohibiting the importation of liquor during the war, and the Government announces its intention of stopping the manufacture of liquor within the Dominion for the same length of time. In the United States Navy prohibition is the inflexible law from the admiral down, and this is done, Secretary Daniels declares, "to make it the most efficient navy in the world." The Secretary's order to the Navy reads:—

The use or introduction for drinking purposes of alcoholic liquors on board any naval vessel, or within any navy yard or station, is strictly prohibited, and commanding officers will be held directly responsible for the enforcement of this order.

Under these conditions it cannot be wondered at that there is growing complaint on the American side of the Atlantic that the grains which they will not permit themselves to manufacture into liquor, but ship to Europe for food purposes, are there used in breweries and distilleries to make alcoholic beverages. It is earnestly to be hoped that the rulers of the Empire, who are now fully awake to the menace of militarism, will also awake to the menace of alcoholism.

REV. R.B.S. HAMMOND, of Sydney, in a gathering for prayer recently declared: "It is a national calamity that the Church of Jesus Christ has ceased to seek the conversion of congregations. The Church is becoming so broad and vague and tolerant that it is not accomplishing any purpose at all."

Signs of the Times

WARBURTON, VICTORIA, AUSTRALIA, JANUARY 28, 1918

All manuscript should be addressed to Editor. For further particulars see last page.

C. M. Snow, Editor

Jerusalem Released from the Turk

JERUSALEM, the city of David, the capital of the Jewish nation of former centuries, and the temporal lodestone of Christendom, is in the hands of England to-day. This is the city for whose possession thousands of lives were sacrificed under the spiritual pleadings of Pope Urban II and Peter the Hermit and the military leadings of such men as Godfrey of Bouillon and Richard, Coeur de Leon.

The history of Christendom's strivings for the city of our Lord's sacrifice is replete with bickerings and bloodshed, intermixed with spiritual zeal and worldly ambitions. The crusades for the deliverance of the "holy places" from the hands of Mohammedanism, while clerical in their conception, were supremely secular in their conduct and selfish in their outworkings. The strife between the counts and princes who undertook the crusades was only a little less bitter than that between the crusaders and the Seljukian Mohammedans, and was a concrete illustration, on a larger scale, of the strife between the disciples of our Lord as to who should be accounted greatest in the kingdom. And the fury of the crusaders against the vanquished when they had captured Jerusalem in 1099 was a near counterpart of that poured out upon Jerusalem's defenders when the Romans captured the city in A.D. 70.

Jerusalem had been in the hands of Mohammedans from the time of its capture by Omar in 637 until the successful completion of the first crusade in 1099. In 1187 the Mohammedan hosts of Saladin won it back and retained possession for forty-two years. In 1229, as a result of the sixth crusade, Jerusalem was again in the hands of the professed followers

of Christ. The forty years of "crusading" resulted in keeping Jerusalem out of the hands of Mohammedanism only fifteen years, however; and in 1244, says the historian, "Jerusalem was finally and forever lost." And this proves that historians are not true prophets; for the followers of the crescent, after 673 years of almost undisturbed possession of Jerusalem, have had to yield to the pressure of the same peoples that disputed Jerusalem's possession with them during the centuries that are gone.

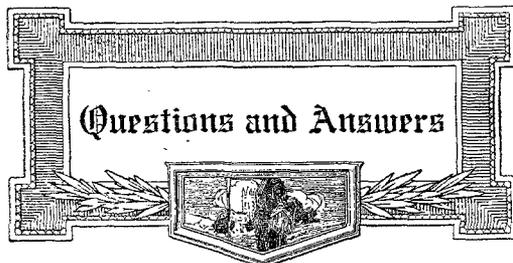
A thrill of exultation went through Christendom when the world was apprised of the recent success of the Allies in their campaign in the Holy Land. The long retention of Jerusalem by the followers of Mohammed had made it seem almost as if its continued possession could not be contested; but now the spell is broken, and although Mohammedan soldiers still guard the "holy places," those Mohammedan soldiers are part of the armies of rulers who look to the cross instead of to the crescent as the symbol of their faith and purpose.

This change of rulership over Palestine has fallen as a tremendous blow upon the Ottoman Power, which has been for some years holding with desperate grip to the crumbling fragment of its European possessions, and has been seeing even that fragment of its former glory mercilessly chipped away in its recent contests with the Balkan States. Whether Germany, Austria, and Bulgaria can come to Turkey's aid with sufficient forces to retrieve Palestine remains to be seen; but unless they can achieve a striking success on the west front within the next few months, we need not look for any such development.

There is nothing in this recent overturning in Palestine that need disturb the student of the Divine Word. God reveals His purposes; He speaks of things accomplished; but He does not always or often reveal the processes by which they are brought about. The question of greatest importance for us is whether we are in close personal touch with our Saviour and are doing all we can to give to this generation the gospel message that is due. "This gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the

world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come." Matt. 24:14. Whatever the nations may do, whatever overturnings may come, the business of Christ's ambassadors is plain—give the message, "preach the Word"; "for now is our salvation nearer than when we

first believed." Too often we form in our minds a scheme by which prophecy must be worked out, and forget that God has ways and means of fulfilling His predictions which may be very different from the means which we expect Him to employ. It is God's business to fulfil prophecy; it is ours to preach the Word.



459—The Kings of the East

What is meant by the rising of the kings of the east? F. B.

The battle of Armageddon is the last great battle of this world's history. All the nations of the world will have a part in it. See Rev. 16:14-16. In some way the "kings of the east" are to be brought into it; but something hitherto has stood in the way. In preparing the world for that battle, the nation through whose territory the Euphrates flows is to be "dried up," to make way for the kings of the east. That Power is Turkey, which is now, and has been for some years, undergoing the drying-up process. When that work has been done, the way will be open for those kings to come up to the great battle which ushers in the end of the world.

460—Running for Money

1. Is it right for children of a Sunday-school to run for money?
2. Did Adam and Eve eat of the tree of life?
3. When is man mortal, and when and how does he become immortal? J. L. B.

1. No; it is a lesson in gambling. Someone has put up the money, and they contest with others for it. Just so in card playing, money is risked, and all who are in the game strive for it. Children who run for money under the auspices of a Sunday-school are very likely to see no reason why they should not play cards for money or put up their money on the horses.

2. Yes; and after they had also partaken of the fruit of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, the Lord set angels (cherubim) and a flaming sword to keep them from perpetuating their lives forever by continuing to eat of the tree of life. "Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat: but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it." Gen. 2:16, 17. Verse 22 of

chapter 3 might seem to indicate that they had not been eating of the tree of life. But the real thought of the verse is lest they partake and *live forever*, as they would certainly do if they had continued access to the tree of life.

3. Man is mortal from the day of his birth till the day of his death. "Shall mortal man be more just than God?" Job 4:17. "Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body." Rom. 6:12. "The King of kings, and Lord of lords; who only hath immortality, dwelling in the light which no man can approach unto." 2 Tim. 6:16. When will man obtain immortality?—At the time of the resurrection of the righteous. Read I Cor. 15:50-58.

461—A Withered Hand

1. Is it to be found anywhere in the Bible that a man with a withered hand thinks to rule the world?
2. Will all the fallen who bear arms on the field of battle be lost?
3. Was the Roman Catholic the first religion? A. E.

1. No. Some have thought that Zech. 11:17 refers to the Kaiser; but it seems to us that such an application is wholly imaginary. The arm that is dried up there is dried up as a result of a stroke of a sword. It is a figure of speech.

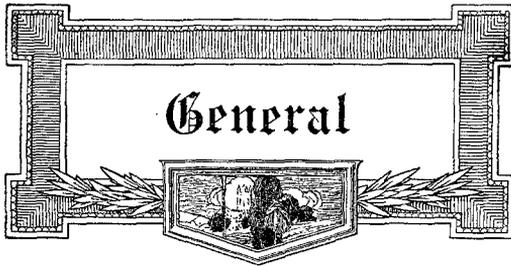
2. We do not know; it will depend entirely upon their personal relation to God.

3. No; the Roman Catholic religion is a modern religion when compared with the Hebrew; and the Roman Catholic religion of to-day is a very different thing from the Roman Catholic religion of the days of St. Augustine and St. Jerome and St. Epiphanius. They protested against innovations that are now the basic principles of the Church of Rome, such as auricular confession and the worship of the Virgin Mary.

462—Jesus' Vesture

Catholic priests and some Church of England clergymen wear most beautiful vestments trimmed with costly lace, and give as a reason for doing so that Christ had a lovely garment made for Him by the women who followed Him, which was too beautiful to be divided after His death. Is that true? PUZZLED

There is nothing but tradition to build upon in this matter, and we do not know of any tradition



SEEKING FOR CHANNELS

W. R. Carswell

LOOKING down from this island of beauty
To islands and channels beyond,
I see lessons of love and of duty
That thrill with imaginings fond;
For I see, as the yachts go by, sailing
The reefs and the islands between,
They are seeking for channels unailing
To bear them to havens unseen.

So Thou too, my Master, art seeking
For channels Thy Love to reveal—
Thy grace to my heart has been speaking,
Then should I Thy glory conceal?
Lord make me a channel unailing,
To guide to the Haven unseen
Some soul in this sad world of wailing,
Though many the dangers between.

And ye, Oh my friends and my brothers,
Who were bought at such infinite cost,
Will *you* not be channels to others,
Believing, then saving the lost?
What honour to man has been given!
Though sinful and weak at the best,
Not only to reach home in heaven
But bring some dear soul to that rest!

The World for the Soul

A Bargain Satan Holds Before All Mankind

W. O. Edwards

CHRIST, the great Teacher, once said: "For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?" Mark 8:36, 37.

Long before the time when Christ uttered these words, Satan had been offering ambitious men "the world" in exchange for "the soul." Not only so, but Christ Himself, who was tempted in all points like as we are, had to meet this greatest temptation of the arch-enemy of God and man. Christ's mission to this world was not only to rescue man from death, but to redeem from the hand of the enemy the world itself.

Satan, "the prince of this world," knowing why Christ had come to the earth, offered Him "all the kingdoms of the world, and the glory of them," if He would but "fall down and worship," or render homage to, him. Matt. 4:8, 9. In this temptation, Satan offered Christ the world in exchange for His soul. Had Christ yielded, not only would man have been eternally lost, but Christ would have placed Himself in bondage to Satan, "for of whom a man is overcome, of the same is he brought in bondage." 2 Peter 2:19. But, thanks be to God, Jesus, the Rock of our salvation, stood the test.

To have dominion and power and glory was Satan's own weak point. In fact, he caused war in heaven in an unholy attempt to gain for himself the kingdom and throne of God. Isa. 14:12-14. Failing in that high endeavour, Satan descended to this earth where, by bringing into bondage its inhabitants, he became this world's king, able, as he boastingly told our Lord, to give the kingdoms of the world and their glory to whomsoever he wished. Luke 4:6.

The first man to assume kingly authority in this world's history was Nimrod. All the history we have of this king points to the fact that he was an agent of Satan. His kingdom embraced the best portions of the then-known world, and was situated in the same territory that the British army is now operating in so successfully against the Turks. The dominion of the world appealed very strongly to Nimrod. He was ready to exchange his soul for the kingdom of the world and its glory. But it profited him nothing.

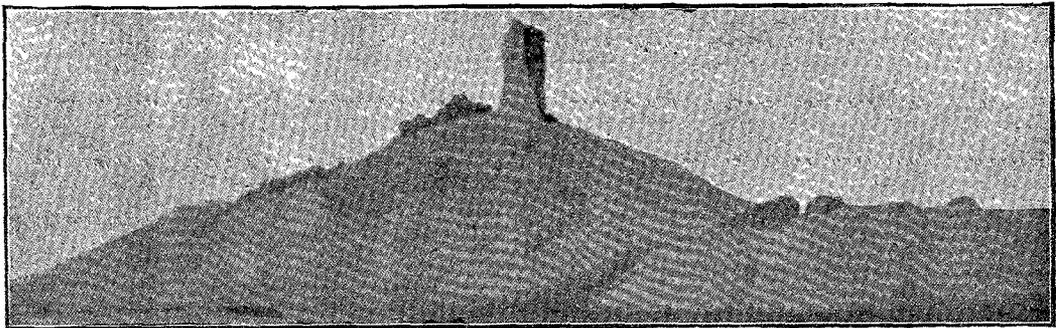
If ever there was a kingdom which Satan could claim as his, that kingdom was Egypt. In that land men worshipped everything but Jehovah, the true God. Egypt in ancient times embraced all the country from Ethiopia, the Sudan, and Libya, to Nineveh and Arabia; and after the conquest of the Hittites went as far north as the Bosphorus. It was this vast kingdom with which Satan tempted Moses (Heb. 11:24-27); even as thousands of years later he tempted Christ with the offer of all the kingdoms of the world and their glory. It was no

small sacrifice for Moses to reject the kingship of such a dominion. Satan no doubt presented before Moses this mighty world-empire in its most attractive light. But like Jesus (of whom he was a type), Moses refused to exchange his soul for even the kingship of the world. He esteemed the reproaches of Christ greater riches than the treasures of Egypt. What indeed shall it profit a man if he gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? Moses to-day has a greater, a more enduring name than the greatest of the Pharaohs.

Another great and powerful king, the

read that he wept because there was nothing else to conquer. But there was something else to conquer. He conquered the world, but he could not conquer his own spirit. He died in a drunken orgy. Alexander gave his soul for the world, but what did it profit him?—He lost his own soul, and his kingdom was “plucked up.” Dan. 11:3, 4.

After Greece, Rome held “universal sway”; and when that “iron monarchy” went down, divided and shattered to fragments, God announced through His prophet that never again should an earthly empire rule the world; never



BABYLON TO-DAY

ruler of a mighty empire, now claims our attention—Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon. It is clear from Dan. 2:37, 38 that God had specially called Nebuchadnezzar to rule the nations of earth. But Satan steps in, and so magnifies the glory and greatness of the kingdom of the world that the king's heart was lifted up with pride, even as Satan's was in heaven. Dan. 4:28-30. Then the Holy One who watches over the affairs of men saw that Nebuchadnezzar was in danger of exchanging his soul for the kingdoms of the world and their glory; and to save the king He took away his kingdom until he was willing to acknowledge that the dominion and kingdom of the Most High was supreme. Dan. 4:31-37.

After Babylon went down, Persia ruled the world, and when Persia's might began to wane a “notable” king arose and grasped the sceptre of the world. This king—Alexander the Great—marched on from victory to victory until the world lay subdued at his feet; and then we

again would it be possible to weld this world's kingdoms into one. Dan. 2:41-43.

Satan has urged many a conqueror since Rome's day to strive for world empire. He fired the mind of the great Napoleon with ambition to subdue a world with the sword. But prophecy cannot fail. Napoleon fought against God. And how is it in our own day? Have men learned to trust in the Bible and its prophecies?—No. Once more Satan has plunged the whole world into a sea of blood. Once more he is offering to men the kingship of the world in exchange for the soul. He has led one of the mightiest rulers of Europe to “embark upon a scheme of *universal dominion*, not allowing the rights of humanity to stand in the way.”—United States Secretary of the Treasury, reported in the *Melbourne Argus*, June 6, 1917. God's Word cannot fail. The prophecy of Dan. 2:41-43 stands in the way of the selfish ambition of earthly rulers. Every attempt at

“universal dominion” will fail, for to make the attempt is to fight against prophecy and the God of prophecy.

Not only is Satan—the prince of this world—offering the kingdoms of this world and their glory to men in high places, but he is tempting *every* man with the offer of the world and its pleasures, in exchange for the soul. But Satan is a deceiver, his pleasures end in pain, and this world’s glory is “empty glory.” The only way to win a kingdom and true glory is to reject utterly Satan’s impudent offer, even as Christ and Moses did, and then in God’s own good time “the kingdom and dominion, and the greatness of the kingdom under the whole heaven, shall be given to the people of the saints of the Most High, whose kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and all dominions shall serve and obey Him.” Dan. 7:27.

The Church of the Liberation

N. J. Waldorf

SINCE the year 1844 a reformatory work has been going on throughout the earth, carried on by what we may term the Church of the Liberation. This movement is spoken of in Rev. 14:6-12. Let us examine a few fundamental features of this threefold message.

First, the emphatic declaration of the angel is “Fear God,” and “worship Him.” Next, “the hour of His judgment is come.” This at once leads us to search the Scriptures to discern whether the previous churches have preached the whole counsel of God. Upon examination we find that many errors and superstitions have been practised in “the Church.” Therefore we conclude, as is clearly pointed out in these words, that a total separation must take place between the people of God and the world. This is further emphasised in verse 12: “Here is the patience of the saints: here are they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus.”

The Church of the Liberation has one grand constitution, namely, the law of God. The power enabling man to keep that law is the faith of Jesus. The Church of the Liberation will not be recognised by State laws; it will not

be a State-established Church. That Church will enthrone Christ upon every man’s mind. Thought always precedes action, no matter how quickly we act. The director of the act is the mind; the realm of operation for the Church is the mind. Therefore the mission of the Church is to persuade minds to yield to the control of Christ. Every action must be Christlike; and the golden rule will be implanted in the very soul: “Whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them, for this is the law and the prophets.”

The State that rules by force would eventually cease to be found, if the principles of the golden rule were universally in operation; the booming of guns and the warring of nations would be things of the past; but alas! here is where the great Church organisation has failed. After the year A.D. 177 “the Church” entered the realm of politics of imperial Rome, and to a greater or less extent she has been found in some sort of union with the State ever since; and the Church that continues that divinely forbidden union will perish during the seven last plagues.

But the Church of the Liberation will be a Christ-controlled Church. It will follow in the Master’s footsteps, and He never partook of the politics of the world. His mission was to save men through the power of God, and that is the mission of the Church of the Liberation. Dear reader, are you one of its members?

“THERE is no deception with God, hence He has not left the world unwarned of the inevitable fruitage of the centuries of sin. He has carefully foretold the time of trouble that is coming. Dan. 12:1. The faithful physician will tell the patient of a fatal malady and its deadly outcome, so that he may prepare for the worst, and set his house in order. But while, like the earthly physician, God gives faithful diagnosis of the fatally diseased conditions, yet, unlike the physician of earth, He does not leave the sinner without hope. There is salvation for those who, from the lowest pit of evil, call on the name of the Lord; for the most fatal diseases of men there is a complete remedy.”

From Heathenism to Christianity

FRANK KNIGHT

AT the recent annual camp-meeting of Seventh-day Adventists of New South Wales, held at Concord Park, Burwood, from October 18 to 28, a most interesting feature was that of a missionary meeting held on Sunday, October 21, when several natives from the Solomon Islands took part in the meeting. The young people of the Seventh-day Adventist denomination in Australasia during the past twelve months have been earning money sufficient to purchase a boat for the work of evangelising the islands of Melanesia. The boat cost £2,800 complete, and sailed from Sydney harbour on July 2 of last year. The above meeting was an occasion when those assembled obtained a full realisation of the power of the gospel for the salvation of these heathen people. There were four native boys present at the meeting, two of whom were dressed in native costume, and although too nervous to speak themselves to so large a congregation, they spoke freely to the chairman, who conveyed to the people the messages given.

Shadrach, perhaps the most promising boy of them all from a Christian standpoint, has had a remarkable experience during the past ten years, showing the Lord's leading in a remarkable way. His home is on the island of Malaita. This island is the home of some of the most savage head-hunters in the world. The lives of these people are shrouded in bloodshed and murder, and the children are reared in that atmosphere which makes them natural cannibals and man-killers.

Such had been the lot of Shadrach until the Lord's providential hand took hold of him. He heard the gospel message when he was quite young through the influence of his uncle who had learned it in Queensland.

On being questioned about his conversion, Shadrach made the following statements which we think are well worth publication:—

"My uncle him come Australia about twenty years ago. Then he come back

and started a school at Bauninni. I was in the bush and he come up and told me about school and I swore at him. I no talk English then—I only about eight year old. After that him go back to pray. When he pray I laugh at him and throw stones at him, and after that I feel something come to my heart and I think I must go to school. Something come



TAMBULLA AND SHADRACH

into my heart and say, 'You go school, you go school.' In about three day my mother get sick and she say, 'You come with me and we go to the place where the school is,' and I go with her and my sister too. We go down to school and my mother go to school [became a student], but me and my sister would not go in the school. We stop outside and took up stones and threw on the school. After that they told me about Jesus. About Him dying for me and the great things He had done for me, but I would not believe that. We stayed about one



week and then went to church. I stayed out near the door, they read their Bibles, but I did not understand them. When I got tired I went outside and singed out to make a noise. I stayed there three months, and then the missionary came and took me away to another place and I stay there one year and learn about the Bible. I was baptised at Bena. After this I started to teach a school. It was very hard to get the children to come to school, but I got forty students. I taught them about Christ. I taught them in the English and in their own language. Some of them were converted, and gave up smoking and their evil habits. A white man took charge of the school when I left."

There is much more in the life of Shadrach that we could tell if space permitted. When he arrived in Sydney six months ago, he was in a backslidden state spiritually, but we are glad to say that before he left for his home in the Solomons on November 7 he had renewed his acquaintanceship with the Lord, and was re-baptised into the name of Jesus.

The other boys came from different islands in the Solomon group, but they did not tell much of their experiences, being younger boys than Shadrach. The boat which brought the boys from the islands was the *Royal Endeavour*, a trading ship, and the boys were kindly lent to us to spend a few days at the encampment.

The interest created was very helpful to our efforts to raise money for the support of the mission fields, and a liberal spirit was manifested in the meeting. The native boys moved around among the congregation with the offering plates, and more than £20 was given for the support of the work.

There is no more important work than that of plucking just such brands from the burning, and the way that these hitherto untutored peoples are responding to the gospel call demonstrates that the power of God is attending the proclamation of His truth in these benighted regions.

We trust that the Lord's blessing will attend the boys as they journey homeward, and pray that they will be kept faithful and finally be shining lights in the kingdom of God.

Jesus' Vesture

(Continued from page 55)

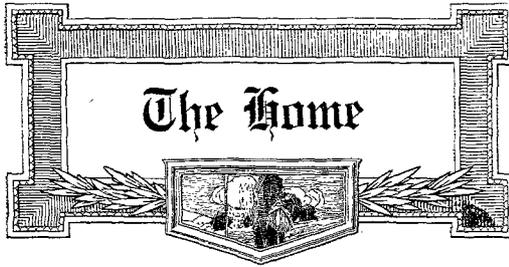
that is authentic. It is true that Jesus had a coat which was all in one piece, "woven from the top throughout." See John 19:23. The soldiers did cast lots for it; because it would have been of no service to them if they had cut it into four parts. This is told in the scripture referred to. But that this coat was any such expensive and gaudy affair as the raiment adopted by the Roman clergy there is not the slightest ground for believing. The Saviour of the world did not need gaudy apparel to emphasise His teaching. The following words of our Saviour ought to settle the question as to whether Jesus was clothed in costly and gaudy raiment: "But what went ye out for to see? A man clothed in soft raiment? Behold, they which are gorgeously apparelled, and live delicately, are in kings' courts." Luke 7:25. John, of whom Jesus was here speaking, was clothed in the coarsest kind of raiment, and Jesus, in calling attention to John's raiment, tells us that those who are gorgeously arrayed are in a different business from that in which He and John were engaged. Gorgeously apparel goes with the world and worldliness; and the more worldly a church is, the more gorgeously will her membership and her priesthood be arrayed.

463—Creating Evil

Kindly explain in your helpful paper the last part of Isa. 45:7. C. MCP.

The text reads: "I form the light, and create darkness: I make peace, and create evil: I the Lord do all these things." This text does not teach that the Lord creates sin or wickedness. What it does mean may be ascertained from other scriptures. "I will bring evil upon all flesh, saith the Lord." Jer. 45:5. "I will punish him and his seed and his servants for their iniquity; and I will bring upon them . . . all the evil that I have pronounced against them." Jer. 36:31. "For, lo, I begin to bring evil on the city." Jer. 25:29. "I will bring evil upon them, even the year of their visitation." Jer. 23:12. Many other scriptures might be given, but these will suffice to show what the "evil" is which the Lord creates. It is judgment or punishment against the wicked. Note these scriptures: "There shall no evil happen to the just." Prov. 12:21. "There shall no evil befall thee, neither shall any plague come nigh thy dwelling." Ps. 91:10. From these scriptures it is apparent that the "evil" in question is the punishment or "visitation" which Jehovah brings upon those who transgress His law and turn their backs upon His offers of mercy.

"AS the flower turns to the sun, that the bright rays may touch it with tints of beauty, so will the soul turn to the Sun of Righteousness, that Heaven's light may beautify the countenance with the graces of the character of Christ."



Children's Duties to Parents

Mary A. H. Loper, M.S.

THE child who forms the habit of waiting to be told before he does things, will stop far short of his possibilities. But the child who trains himself to see what is to be done, and does it cheerfully, not waiting to be told, is forming a character for real usefulness and happiness, and is truly a burden-bearer in the home.

The boy or girl who grows up in the belief that honourable labour in any direction is a God-given privilege, will find that muscular exercise is not without its fascinations; that even an empty water pail or wood box presents a golden opportunity for usefulness which should not be slighted. There are numerous ways in which children may lighten the burdens of the home, and at the same time increase their own health and happiness.

Laziness is a deadly enemy to all success and happiness. The child who is indolent in the home is likely to bring up the rear in the race of life. It is possible to permit laziness to thwart every good purpose, to blight every hope. The boy who continues to lie in the hammock and read, and the girl who persists in playing the piano, after being requested to assist their parents, should, instead, cheerfully assume the obligation to be useful as well as ornamental.

The mistaken idea that girls must always remain indoors while at work, and boys outdoors, should be relegated to times of ignorance. Both require outdoor exercise, with fresh air and sunshine. It does not in the least detract from the nobility of boyhood or young manhood for the son of the household at times to assist his mother or sister in the

routine work of the house. Nor does it cast reflections upon sweet girlhood for the daughter to join in the practical work of the lawn and garden. Children who are interested in keeping everything in order, both indoors and out, are careful to refrain from creating disorder, and thus sweeten the home life day by day, and lift from parental shoulders a burden whose weight many children little realise.

It is a sorry day for a child when he takes his first lesson in being disrespectful to his parents. The first time he stoops to call his father "the old man," and his mother "the old woman," he gives a curvature to his moral spine which is likely to become chronic unless he receives the right kind of treatment. Disrespectful speech, low slang, and contradiction are destructive to home happiness. The child who is careful to be always as respectful to his parents as he is to company, makes a much better impression upon company than if he did otherwise, for cultured company always appreciate seeing children practise good manners in the home. There is no sweeter ministration in life than that of contributing to the comfort, pleasure, and happiness of parents. The milk of human kindness is never quite so tempting as when poured out for those who are feeble and infirm with years. But boys and girls who honour their parents most in their declining days, are those who have practised being respectful and kind all along the way.

"WHEN we have nothing else that we can do for the good of mankind, and are so poor that we have nothing else that we can give, we can always and everywhere give kindness. Kindly sympathy in another's interests, kindly judgment of his efforts, honest pity for his mistakes and failures, sincere pleasure in his successes,—these are always in our power if we are not too self-engrossed to bestow them, and these more than anything else supply the days with a sunny atmosphere."

DISOBEDIENCE is the root of all sin and misery.



ONLY ONE MOTHER

HUNDREDS of stars in the pretty sky,
 Hundreds of shells on the shore together,
 Hundreds of birds that go singing by,
 Hundreds of bees in the sunny weather,
 Hundreds of dewdrops to greet the dawn,
 Hundreds of lambs in the purple clover,
 Hundreds of butterflies over the lawn,—
 But only *one mother* the wide world over.

Birthdays in God's Household

—No. 29

The Birth of the Sabbath (Continued)

Horace G. Franks

"WE have now seen," said Big Brother, "that the seventh-day Sabbath was kept from the time of Adam to the time of Abraham. But I must hurry along. Jacob and Joseph obeyed God, even when Joseph was down in Egypt. But gradually, as a result of great cruelty and slavery in Egypt, God's people stopped observing the Sabbath, although history tells us that the children of Israel were permitted to worship on God's holy day for a few years during their captivity in Egypt. But the time came when Moses led the Israelites out of their slavery into freedom in the wilderness. While they were journeying, God gave them a test. This we read in Ex. 16:4, 5: 'Behold, I will rain bread from heaven for you; and the people shall go out and gather a certain rate every day, that I may prove them, whether they will walk in My law, or no. And it shall come to pass, that on the sixth day they shall prepare that which they bring in, and it shall be twice as much as they gather daily.'

"These two verses clearly show us that the Israelites knew about God's laws and His Sabbath even when they were wandering through the wilderness. And surely there was no reason for their forgetting it, because God performed at least one miracle every sixth day to remind them. Read verses 22-28.

"And so they went on, journeying through the wilderness, until they came to Mount Sinai. You will remember that in Ex. 16:28 we read the following question asked by Jehovah: 'How long refuse ye to keep My commandments and My laws?' Therefore, when the Lord gave the ten commandments written on tables of stone later at Mount Sinai, the fourth read: 'Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy.' Ex. 20:8. In the midst of great fire and smoke and grandeur, God de-

scended to the top of the mountain and reminded the children of Israel of their duties to Him, and in the fourth commandment He takes their minds back to creation, when He first gave man the Sabbath.

"If we summarise the first five books of the Bible in connection with the Sabbath, we shall discover that this holy day commenced in paradise; was kept by the patriarchs; was given to the Hebrews as a sacred trust and as a sign between God and them; was proclaimed by God as one of the ten commandments, and written by the finger of God upon stone in the heart of His law; that the law was placed beneath the mercy-seat of the ark; that the children of Israel did disobey God's law and many times reject His Sabbath; but that the seventh day still remained the Sabbath up to the time of David.

"We will now spend the remainder of the time this afternoon studying about David and the Sabbath. One statement of the palmist should be enough to settle the question. I read in Ps. 119:97 these words: 'O how love I Thy law! it is my meditation all the day.' Or, again, read verse 93: 'I will never forget Thy precepts: for with them Thou hast quickened me.' Verses 44 and 48 read: 'So shall I keep Thy law continually forever and ever'; 'My hands also will I lift up unto Thy commandments, which I have loved; and I will meditate in Thy statutes.'

"The whole book of Psalms is full of similar assurances, proving without doubt that David loved God's law and commandments. But you may ask whether he actually kept God's Sabbath. Let us see. In 1 Chron. 23:31 and 2 Chron. 2:4 we read of the arrangements made by David concerning the duties of the priests at the house of God, which distinctly mentions their duties on the Sabbath. Also David is declared to be a man after God's own heart, and we cannot imagine him as such if he did not do as God did respecting the seventh day.

"If we turn to Psalm 92, we notice that the heading calls it, 'A psalm or song for the Sabbath day,' and in beautiful language David tells us his thoughts on God's holy day. In the story of David we read of his dealings with the ark of the Lord, in which, you will remember, the ten commandments written on tables of stone had been placed. All these things surely tell us that David, king of Israel, obeyed the Lord in the matter of Sabbath-keeping.

"But now I must stop. If you can all be present again next Sunday afternoon, I will continue telling you about the history of God's Sabbath, particularly referring to the prophets and the seventh day."

Just here Mrs. Draper asked the following question: "Do you not think it would be a good idea for us to meet here next Saturday afternoon as well as Sunday? I am beginning to feel that perhaps Sunday is not the right day to keep and would like to hear more of this interesting subject as quickly as possible."

"Certainly," answered Big Brother; "I shall be delighted to see you all next Saturday afternoon and evening."

And here we must leave the party of friends as they slowly walk home from Big Brother's, earnestly talking about the new things they had learned concerning the true Sabbath.

(Continued next week)

Where are the Dead, and What is Their Condition?

This anxious question is being asked to-day by thousands of broken-hearted fathers and mothers, whose "desire to obtain information leads them to investigate any phenomena that may promise to reveal to them the unseen world with which they are surrounded."

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The following chapter heads will give some idea of the intensely interesting matter contained in this little volume.

- | | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|
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| 2—SPIRITISM IN BIBLE TIMES | 8—HEATHENISM IN CHRISTIAN GARB |
| 3—MAGIC IN THE EARLY AGES | 9—SPIRITISM AND ARMAGEDDON |
| 4—MODERN WONDERS FORETOLD | 10—ANGELS—GOOD AND EVIL |
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THE Pacific Press Publishing Company, publishers of the American *Signs of the Times*, is establishing a branch office at Cristobal, Canal Zone, from which point of vantage periodical missionary work will be conducted on a large scale.

FOOD conservation is becoming a very real thing in America, where, by house-to-house canvassing, householders are pledging themselves against the waste of food and are agreeing to do without foods that are especially suitable for transportation.

SIXTEEN dear souls have been won to the truth in a village in the Nile Valley, Egypt, as a result of an evangelistic effort there conducted. The workers declare that they are of good courage and ask for the prayers of God's people in more favoured climes.

SAYS a writer in the *Sunday School Times*: "It is only a question of time when the dwindling Turkish armies, decimated by disease, destitute of all medical necessities and ordinary supplies, pressed by hunger and famine from within, must vanish from the Holy Land in the disintegration of the Ottoman Empire." The writer, a missionary from America, has lived in Palestine and Syria, and speaks with great feeling of the misrule and injustice of the Ottoman Government, and with great assurance of the final dissolution of that Power.

FOR some years our printing press at Avondale New South Wales, has been issuing, among other publications, monthly periodicals in five island languages. We are now glad to note that the work in the island fields has so increased of late that it has now proved advisable to institute two small presses in the fields themselves. Accordingly, one small plant has been despatched to Rarotonga to cope with the literature to be published in Tahitian and Rarotongan, and another complete printing outfit has gone to Fiji, there to print papers, tracts, and other literature in Fijian, Samoan, and Tongan. We wish these young sister-institutions of ours every success, and pray that the Lord will add His blessing to the work done by our faithful missionaries.

WANTED

WANTED, companionable help for quiet farm place by isolated Sabbath-keeper; three children, youngest eleven years. T. O. Watts, Hamley Bridge, S.A.

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The donations received to this fund are greatly appreciated. We have many opportunities of using the money to good advantage. Many individuals too poor to subscribe to our papers have benefited, and packets have been sent to new mission fields, with splendid results. All gifts will be acknowledged in this column from time to time, and our very best judgment will be used in the expenditure of same. The Publishers

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