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ONE PENNY

Ensuring Peace by Preparing for War

HAS the god of war been dethroned? Has this generation paid the price of lasting peace?

Has this old earth passed through its Armageddon?

These questions, and a score of others, are puzzling the mind of the ordinary man today. He longs to dip into the future, and sighs for a knowledge of earth's condition twenty, thirty, or fifty years hence. He remembers the horrors of the years that have just passed; he visualises the unknown terrors of future conflicts; and then hopes and prays for a lasting peace.

But another world war?—Yes; for despite the League of Nations, regardless of earth's surfeit of slaughter, in spite of the good resolutions made while the guns were booming and our brave sons and brothers and friends

loid so that the fire might quickly burn itself out. Yet prior to 1914 that was exactly the logic used in argument and the procedure adopted in practice by those who were "ensuring peace" by actively preparing for war. One might as well expect to produce a garden of Eden by continually planting thorns and weeds, as well expect a bountiful harvest of wheat after scattering broadcast the seed-down of the thistle, as to expect battleships always to be used as pleasure-craft and guns to be mere curios.

Yet this is precisely what the nations are doing today. They demobilised their conscripted armies yesterday and today they urge the necessity of maintaining strong volunteer armies. They scrap some of their old battle-ships today and then pass a huge bill of expenditure for the navy tomorrow. And they justify their actions by the use of the same antiquated logic whose faultiness has so

upon an instrumentality of that nature to absolve it from the obligation to prepare to defend its honour and its soil.

And then, in further definition of his ideas, the General declared that proper preparation meant that "it should be on a scale that was going to deter an enemy from attacking."

Such reasoning, however, does not tally with the logic of our past experience, for there is that within the human breast—call it greed, ambition, pride, or what you will—which endeavours to persuade an individual or a nation that nothing can deter it from achieving that which it purposes. Preparation for war has always meant war—and, in the end, reparation for damage done during that war. Yet preparedness is as much an international watchword now as ever it was during the war.

There are other well-known men who realise that we are not yet through with war. Admiral Lord Beatty has declared that it is most improbable that Jutland will be the last



THE GERMAN ARMY WHICH THE *Illustrated London News* OF MARCH 8, 1913, TERMED "AN EVER-GROWING, PEACE-ENSURING FORCE," AMBUSHING RUSSIAN CAVALRY

were dying, a future world war is as sure as that the sun commenced its heavenly march yesternorn and finished it yestereve.

We stand today in a position somewhat similar to that which preceded the Great War. In those happy days, now scarcely a memory despite their nearness to us in point of time, the world imagined itself to be knocking at the gates of the paradise called "Millennium of Peace." And then its dream-bubble burst, and five years of WAR almost dissolved our recollection of peace. But not quite; and today we view a world crying peace when there is no peace; longing for peace while it reads of strife; and *assuring* peace by preparing for war.

A Peace Prophecy That Failed

IN the *Illustrated London News* of March 8, 1913, there appeared a photograph of the annual manoeuvres of the Kaiser's troops, and over which was the title, "An ever-growing peace-ensuring force: the German army." Less than eighteen months later this "peace-ensuring force" was participating in some of the most dreadful carnage this world has ever seen. Indeed, in these pre-war days statesmen and generals and admirals were united in their declarations that large armies, powerful guns, mighty fleets, and mammoth battleships would ensure peace by making a great war impossible (or, at most, very brief) owing to the terrible nature of modern warfare; but their prophecies have proved as false as their plans have proved disastrous. If a man has a house full of valuable treasures, he does not keep oil stored in every room in order to keep the fire-engine pumps going in case of fire, neither does he make the walls of cellu-

recently and definitely been demonstrated.

In a recent issue of the *American Review of Reviews* the editor speaks of the great necessity of the establishment of a "mutual insurance society for doing away with wars," and then says:—

The world's best and cheapest form of insurance in times past has been the maintenance of an effective navy. As a continued safeguard against the danger of delay in securing the League of Nations, with its policy of disarmament, the best possible form of insurance for the United States is to be that great American navy for which President Wilson and Secretary Daniels have declared themselves.

Therefore America propounds an "insurance" scheme in the form of a navy which will cost practically £110,000,000 during the next three years, including the training of five thousand naval reservists annually, and £7,000,000 for the flying corps.

The British Government, while decreasing somewhat its naval and military budgets, recently voted the sum of £50,000,000 a year for five years to put the Royal Air Force on a firm basis, in addition to setting aside large sums for the support of its great navy and contemplated volunteer army.

A Great Australian Speaks

SPEAKING recently in Melbourne at the luncheon of the British Empire League, Sir John Monash declared that he was "the strongest advocate for scientific, elaborate, and active military preparation against the evil day which might come before his time had run its course," and gave his reasons in these words:—

However potent the League of Nations might become in the course of time—it might be a long time—in the mitigation of war, it will never be the means of preventing war. That nation is ruined which is going to rely

great naval battle; Marshal Foch has already spoken of, and counselled concerning, the "next time"; while Sir William Irvine, the Lieutenant-Governor of Victoria, recently declared that "any idea of a universal era of peace is a mere vision of a war-weary brain," for, he tells Australia, "you will have the same beliefs and the same conditions that lead to war in the future as you have had in the past." In other words, as the months of peace-making roll by the honest man sees the path to a lasting peace fade like the phosphorescent wake of a ship in midnight waters.

Events That Point to the Climax

BUT, asks the reader, why paint such a pessimistic picture? why go out to meet such troubles half way? Because these things are finger-posts to all who will be guided by them. They point to the climax of the ages, the consummation of all things, telling of a true preparedness which all must have if they would be conquerors over sin and the grave. Such prophetic outlines as those found in Isaiah 2, Joel 3, Micah 4, and Revelation 16 present a true picture of the programme for this world, telling of peace leagues, war preparation, and a coming struggle worthy the name of Armageddon. Toward this sad anticlimax in the history of this world we are now hastening, and for earth's last battle-campaign the nations are preparing; hence the divine appeal is made to those who would be saved:

"Stand therefore, having your lions girt about with truth, and having on the breast-plate of righteousness; and your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace."

Such preparedness will ensure the eternal peace offered to God's faithful children.

The Fight for Sunday

AN anonymous friend of the British Sunday has placarded the Metropolis with a boldly printed poster, quoting a resolution passed at a well-attended meeting at the Queen's Hall, London, a few weeks ago. The resolution was in the following terms:—

That this meeting views with alarm the dishonour to our God, and injury to the country, caused by the growing disregard of the Lord's Day, and urgently calls upon authorities and people in general to honour God by holy observance of His day, lest He refrain from honouring us. "Them that honour Me I will honour, and they that despise Me shall be lightly esteemed."

The force of this appeal would be greatly increased if those who made it could point to any place in the Scriptures where God requires of any one the keeping of Sunday, the first day of the week. Certainly it does not honour God as much to disobey His command as to obey it. His command has never been revoked, which specifies that the seventh day of the week should be kept as the "Sabbath of the Lord thy God." That command has never been repealed nor has it ever been questioned by any prophet or apostle. Yet they who make this appeal for the honouring of God by keeping Sunday deliberately disobey His specific command in so doing, by working upon the day which He calls His. To honour God truly is to do exactly what He says. To dishonour Him is to set up our own wills and ways in opposition to His and place them before the world as God's requirements. The prophet Samuel told the wicked king of Israel that "to obey is better than sacrifice; and to hearken than the fat of rams." We cannot honour God by disobedience, and we do not obey when we break His holy law, disregard His holy Sabbath day, and substitute another of our own choosing in its place.

Causes of Price Increases

THE tremendous increases in prices of the various commodities which we use are difficult for most people to understand; many set them down entirely to profiteering. While no doubt it is due very largely to this, it is also a real and logical result of the fearful war which this world has experienced. An item in the daily press will give us a key or reason for the larger proportion of the increased prices which we are called upon now to pay for the necessities of life. From this statement of increased governmental expenditures we take the following figures which show the increase in the various items mentioned between 1914 and 1920. In 1914 Great Britain's national debt amounted to £24,500,000. In 1920 it was increased to £335,000,000. In 1914 Great Britain paid for military and naval operations £76,027,000; in 1920 she is paying £269,170,000. In 1914 for civil services Great Britain paid £55,005,000; in 1920 she is paying on this item £555,626,000. The figures for her Revenue Department have increased from £29,460,000 to £61,280,000. Her gross expenditure on these items was £207,817,000 in 1914; but £1,282,198,000 in 1920. With other nations these figures would probably show similar increases. Surely the world has paid the piper for its war dance. But the bill is not fully paid; it will run on through the years to come.

Exchange and Missions

WHILE the great war was not waged for the purpose of bringing hardship upon the various missionary operations of the world, it has certainly had that effect on many of the mission fields. It is calculated that when the losses of the leading missionary organisations are totalled a sum of not far less than £500,000 will be required next year to balance the account. These losses have been due principally to differences in exchange between the pound sterling and the currency of the fields in which the missionaries have been operating. One of the leading officials of a great missionary organisation has declared that the loss which they have sustained is equivalent to the throwing of £40,000 of their money into the sea. The secretary of the Baptist Missionary Society feels confident that the people will rally to the support of their missions in foreign lands, and so his society proposes to throw itself earnestly into the work of raising the extra money needed to make up for this great loss. Concerning this serious development the editor of the *Christian Herald and Signs of Our Times* makes this striking statement:—

(Concluded on page 436)

The Conflict of the Ages

Elijah a Type of Those Who Will Be Translated

ELIJAH was a man of like passions with us, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain; and it rained not on the earth for three years and six months. And he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain, and the earth brought forth her fruit." James 5: 17, 18, R.V.

Elijah the prophet was moved by the Holy Spirit to pray that the rain might be withheld from the land of Israel. Led by Ahab and his heathen queen, Jezebel, the majority of the people had fallen into the corrupting, sensual worship of Baal. Message after message had been sent to the king and his leading counsellors from the God of heaven, to bring them to repentance. But the messages remained unheeded, the messengers were despised. At last Elijah, moved by an earnest desire for the glory of God, and the reformation of Israel, prayed for a drought on the land. His request was granted, for it was in harmony with God's threatened judgments upon His people when they apostatised. Lev. 26:18, 19; Deut. 28: 15, 23.

Miraculous Feeding of Elijah

HAVING delivered God's message to Ahab, announcing the coming drought, Elijah passed out of the palace before the astonished monarch could give orders for his arrest. When the king did order his arrest, the prophet could not be found. God had made known to the faithful messenger a hiding-place by the brook Cherith, where he was miraculously fed by the ravens with bread and flesh morning and evening. For drink the prophet had the pure water of the brook. "Man doth not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God." Obedience to God's commands placed the prophet in a place where God could honour his faith shown by obedience. In the time of severe drought which followed he was not left to perish, though his dependence was not on any human support.

Elijah was a type of those who will be translated at the second coming of our Lord. When the *last* plagues are falling on a guilty world, and "fearfulness hath surprised the hypocrites," they enquire among themselves, "Who shall be able to endure the test of fire?" See Isa. 33: 13-17. God's reply is that the righteous will endure it, and that "bread shall be given him; his waters shall be sure." To supply their needs God has promised to open on every mountain and hill, "rivers and streams of waters." Isa. 30: 25. See also Isa. 41: 17, 18; 43: 18-20.

The Widow of Zarephath

WHEN the waters of the brook Cherith failed by reason of the drought, Jehovah did not forget His true servant. He was instructed to leave his own country and make the land of Zidon (or Sidon), which was on the border of the Mediterranean Sea, his temporary residence. There, in the village of Zarephath, he found the widow with whom he was directed to abide. To any person who did not believe in the power of God, the poor widow seemed a most unlikely person to sustain Elijah in that time of drought. But Elijah believed that with God all things are possible.

Probably because of Ahab's persistent efforts to find Elijah, he was sent to another land; and there commanded to dwell with a very humble person. But more than this, it

seems probable that Elijah would not have found in Israel a person with faith to obey the word of God by the prophet, as did the widow of Zarephath. Think of the situation, and then judge of her faith. Busied in gathering a few sticks to prepare from her last handful of meal and remnant of oil, a small cake for herself and son—their last meal before dying of hunger as she believed—she is instructed by the prophet to prepare him a small cake first. The command was accompanied by a promise, made in Jehovah's name, that the food supply would suffice to feed them all through the drought. Faith acting on God's promise made the poor widow obedient to the prophet's word; and her obedience meant salvation from the dreaded death by hunger. It meant salvation to her soul also, because she accepted the God of Israel as her God.

The Lesson for Us

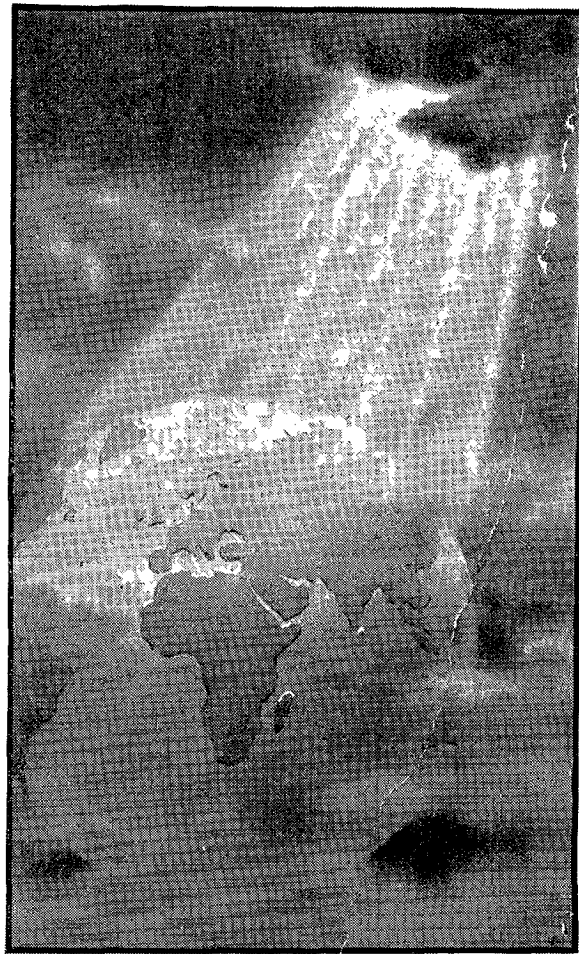
THE drought in Israel for three years and six months had its parallel in the 1260 years of the papal supremacy. The three and a half years, or forty-two months, counting thirty days to the month, are exactly 1260 days. But days used symbolically stand for years. Eze. 4: 6. During that period of 1260 years there was spiritual drought in lands controlled by the Papacy. The true servants of God, like Elijah, fled for their lives to other lands; and oftentimes found greater kindness than from bigoted rulers and bishops professing to be Christian.

After the time of drought had passed (the period of papal supremacy), God's people had to give another message of reform as did Elijah. The people were to be called back to the commandments of God as in Elijah's day. While the messengers who uplift the standard of God's holy law may be few, like Elijah compared

with the false prophets, a similar convincing power will attend their work. When Elijah confronted the false prophets on Mount Carmel the truth of God's word was vindicated. God bore witness with His servant, and the people said "Jehovah, He is the God." See I Kings 18: 17-46.

An Elijah Message

A MESSAGE based upon the Word and law of God is again being given. And the Lord has said, "Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet, before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the Lord." Mal. 4: 5. This is a pledge of the Elijah power in giving the last message, the message of the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus. And surely as it was needed in Elijah's day it is needed now. Every wind of doctrine is blowing, and Spiritism, a Satanic delusion, is gathering its millions from among those who profess to serve the Son of God. Divine power and light must come to scatter the darkness of error and delusion. And the sure Word of God indicates that it will come. A mighty angel comes down from heaven with great power and the earth is lightened with his glory. He announces the fallen condition of Christendom, the controlling influence of demons, and with a mighty voice calls out every honest child of God from the organisations ripe for destruction. That cry will soon resound from end to end of this old world, "Come out of her, My people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues." Rev. 18: 1-4.



"AND GOD SAID, LET THERE BE LIGHT; AND THERE WAS LIGHT"

"Spirits generally—advanced spirits, those who are intelligent—do not accept the divinity of Jesus Christ; they do not believe He was crucified for mankind."
 —Banner of Light (Spiritualistic journal).

I WAS one of about two thousand people who recently attended a lecture given in Detroit by Sir Oliver Lodge, English scientist, who has in late years become a convert to and a very ardent advocate of the teachings of Spiritism.

Having read much of Sir Oliver, I was willing to satisfy my curiosity to the extent of paying one dollar for one of the seats, which ranged in price from one dollar to five dollars. Whatever may be Sir Oliver's convictions pertaining to ghosts, phantoms, and spirits, he evidently is a materialist when it comes to the matter of dollars. Not an unoccupied seat could be seen in the great hall; and for nearly two hours, his audience paid the most respectful attention. After hearing Sir Oliver, one can but feel that he is very honest in his convictions; and he is equally positive in stating his conclusions.

He related his early experiences of over thirty years ago. He began with telepathy, and being convinced of its powers, was led into the realm of Spiritism. After twenty years of investigation, he declared his belief in the conscious existence of the dead and their ability to communicate with the living.

He admits that there are mediums who resort to trickery. He maintains, however, that there are genuine mediums, and that positive communications are held with the dead. To use his own words: "It was in 1889 that I started my investigation into things immortal; but it was not until 1909, twenty years later, that I announced that I was convinced. My beliefs are founded on science—tests that no one would deny if they participated in them." "I know," he said with great emphasis, "that

A Tidal Wave .. of .. Psychism

ARCHER V. COTTON

that there is a conscious existence of the dead, and that the departed are able to communicate with the living. In fact, the dead are represented as very desirous to communicate with the living; and the claim is made that as people continue to seek the dead, the wall of separation grows thinner and thinner, and perhaps, after a while, they will mingle freely with the living!

One of the very conspicuous tendencies of the age is the desire to search out the mystical, and frequently to the utter abandonment of the plain, simple truth of God's Word.

It seems surpassingly strange that while men are seeking to learn the facts concerning the dead and the hereafter, they do not accept the unequivocal statements of the Almighty, the Author of life and immortality. If Sir Oliver Lodge would believe the Creator and accept His Word unqualifiedly, he would find that instead of forty years, he would need but forty

I have talked with the dead. I have talked with many of those who died in battle, and I know whereof I speak." He dismisses all objections with an air of finality that leaves his hearers in no doubt whatever as to where he stands.

Sir Oliver Lodge, while one of the most renowned, is but one of a number of scientists who, in investigating Spiritism, have reached the conclusion

minutes to learn the nature of Spiritism and its true source.

Are Mortals Immortal?

PONDER the words: "Which in His times He shall show, who is the blessed and only Potentate, the King of kings, and Lord of lords; who *only hath immortality*, dwelling in the light which no man can approach unto." I Tim. 6: 15, 16. If God *only* has immortality, then man does not possess it, and therefore does not exist in a conscious state after death.

Again, "Now unto the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only wise God, be honour and glory forever and ever." I Tim. 1: 17. While God is declared to have immortality, man is declared to be mortal. Job 4: 17. In not one place in God's Word is man said to possess immortality. Not until the resurrection, at the second coming of Christ, will man obtain immortality, and then it will be given to the righteous only. I Cor. 15: 51-54.

The principal element in all heathenism is the belief in the conscious state of the dead; and supposed communication with the dead is common throughout paganism. Sir Oliver Lodge and other modern exponents of the teaching have not discovered anything new. They are only reviving hoary heathen beliefs and practices, and adorning them with pseudo-scientific garb. Apply the X-ray of God's Word, and you will find hidden under that garb innumerable abominations.

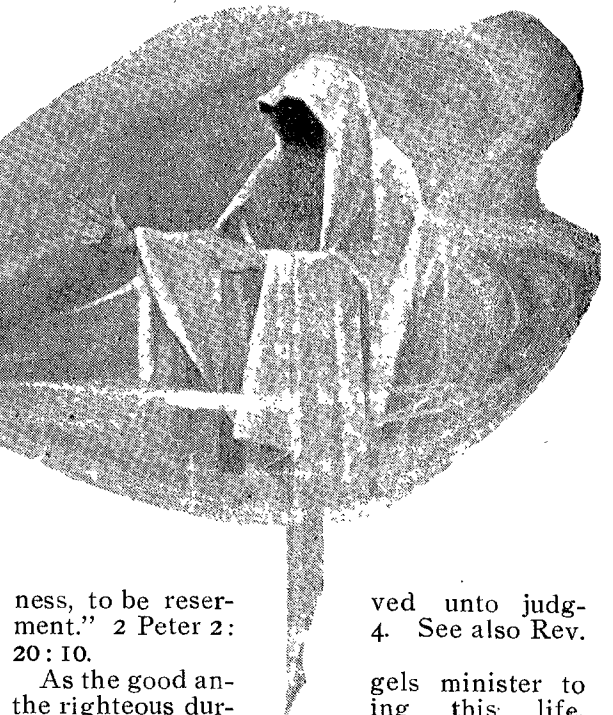
The teaching and practice of Spiritism in olden times was so offensive to the Lord that He would not suffer mediums to dwell within the borders of Israel, and even commanded that they should be killed. Deut. 18: 10-12; Lev. 19: 31; Isa. 8: 19.

The Logical Explanation

THE manifestations of Spiritism are easily understood when we take into consideration that there are angels, supernatural beings, good and bad. They have existed from the remotest times. After man sinned in the Garden of Eden, God sent cherubim, or angels, to guard the tree of life. Gen. 3: 24. In the Old Testament, we read of angels appearing to Abraham, Jacob, Manoah, Gideon, and Daniel. In the New Testament, there are the instances of angels visiting Zacharias, Mary the mother of Christ, the holy women

at the tomb, and the Apostle Peter when he was delivered from prison. The angels are called "ministering spirits," who are "sent forth to minister for them who shall be heirs of salvation." Heb. 1: 14. We also have reason to believe that they are countless in number. Dan. 7: 10; Rev. 5: 11.

Before the history of the human race began, there was a rebellion in heaven, in which a very considerable number of the angels took part, and they were ultimately cast out. Here is the record: "There was war in heaven: Michael and His angels fought against the dragon; and the dragon fought and his angels, and prevailed not; neither was their place found any more in heaven. And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world: he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him." Rev. 12: 7-9. We have the statement of Christ that evil began with Satan. John 8: 44. Satan therefore became the ruling spirit with all the evil angels; and since they were cast out of heaven, this earth has been the seat of their operations. The following statement is interesting: "God spared not the angels that sinned, but cast them down to hell, and delivered them into chains of dark-



ness, to be reserved unto judgment." 2 Peter 2: 20: 10.

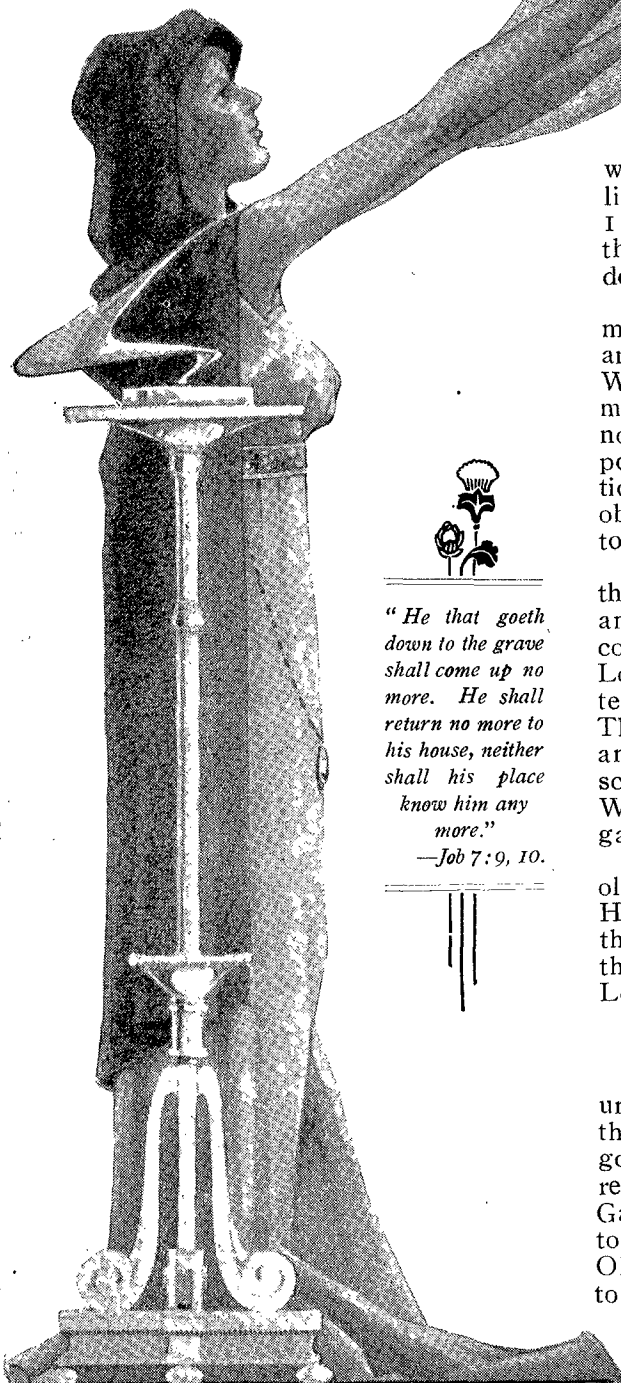
As the good angels minister to the righteous during this life, Satan and his evil angels seduce and deceive. He has come down with great power in these last days, because he understands full well that his time is growing short. Rev. 12: 12. The evil angels still possess supernatural powers, and are well acquainted with us and our lives. Their power to impersonate the departed is particularly manifest in these days through the agency of Spiritism.

Survival Bolstered by Evil Angels

EVIL angels are ever about us. They are acquainted with the record of our lives. They can give names and dates, and relate incidents in our lives and those of the departed, that perhaps no one but the principals themselves knew. Whether the revelation is made by automatic writing, the tipping of tables, fortune telling, or a medium in a trance, it bears the seal and stamp of Satan, the master deceiver. Thousands have been ensnared by its deceptions. There are supposed materialisations on record where evil angels have appeared, and even to peculiar deformities, have resembled persons who once lived on the earth. To the uninformed, such remarkable manifestations appear to constitute indubitable proof of a conscious existence after death.

Science is like a broken reed when it endeavours to seek out the source of Spiritism. Only the Word of God can set men straight on this subject. Spiritism will doubtless in the near future sweep over civilisation like a tidal wave, and it will prove to be a means of destruction to thousands of bright intellects that leave out of their consideration the Word of God; and the "higher criticism" has prepared the way for just such a calamity.

"IN spite of seeming discouragements we are never to grow faint in praying. An honest, persevering faith, a faith that works for the very object that it is praying for, a faith that holds on in spite of rebuffs, is the faith that conquers."



"He that goeth down to the grave shall come up no more. He shall return no more to his house, neither shall his place know him any more."
 —Job 7: 9, 10.

Exchange and Missions

(Continued from page 434)

With the end of this dispensation drawing near, the Master was never more insistent in His demand than now to "go into all the world and teach all nations," and those of us who cannot go are under the obligation to do all in our power to help the great missionary societies to send those who can go, as well as support those who are already in the field.

It is indeed true that the end of this dispensation is drawing near and the Master's command to His servants to go into all the world and preach the gospel to all nations does indeed involve on the part of those who cannot go the giving of their means to the support of those who can.

"Advance Australia"

IT is not the business of the true followers of Jesus Christ in any country to stir up hatred and enmity in the hearts of the people against the government. Christians have often gone to the rack, the dungeon, the stocks, the stake, or the gallows, in mute protest against unjust laws, and have taught the doctrine of love and salvation when cruel laws were against it; but nowhere in the divine Word or in the example of our Saviour is there act or declaration to warrant Christians stirring up strife and hatred to overthrow governments or dismember empires. He who does that denies his Lord and takes a course that can merit only His condemnation at last. The admonition of the great apostle concerning our attitude toward governments is:—

That, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men; for kings, and for all that are in authority; that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty. I Peter 2:1, 2.

Let every soul be subject to the higher powers. For there is no power but of God: the powers that be are ordained of God. Whosoever therefore resisteth the power, resisteth the ordinance of God: and they that resist shall receive to themselves damnation. Rom. 13:1, 2.

Had this admonition been followed by the priest who wrote the "play" called "Advance Australia," he would never have written it. The purpose of that play is entirely out of harmony with both the spirit and the letter of Paul's instruction, and Paul spoke as he was moved by the Spirit of God. Again, says the same writer, "If it be possible, as much as lieth in you, live peaceably with all men." Rom. 12:18. No such spirit of strife has been stirred up in Australia in many years as that which has resulted from the "play" written by a Roman Catholic priest, J. J. Kennedy, of Bendigo. This man, though having worn the uniform of the Australian Imperial Forces, and having received the decoration which entitles him to write the initials D.S.O. after his name, has assumed the same attitude toward his Government as that maintained by Dr. Mannix. The influence of the work of such men is to disrupt, tear down, and destroy government, rather than to pray for, intercede for, and strengthen. It does not lend itself to the securing of a "quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty"; but does encourage hatred, animosity, strife, bitterness, and turmoil. The letters published from day to day in various papers throughout Australia are indicative of this feeling of animosity and strife which the "play" has occasioned. The *Bendigo Advertiser* of July 6 gives an extended account of the indignation meeting held on July 5. The chairman, in expressing the purpose of the meeting, stated that—

It had been put to him that something should be done in the nature of a swift retribution against the offence committed against all loyal Australians. Consequently it was for them to decide what action should be taken, also to give vent to their feelings in the matter, and, he trusted, to prevent a repetition of the offence.

They who seek to "Advance Australia" by weakening the empire are blasting the foundation from beneath their own house. No greater political calamity could come to the world than the disruption of the British Empire. But there are those who are so shortsighted as to be willing to inflict even that calamity upon the human race if thereby Protestant England could be deprived of that much of her empire. And if that were accomplished, the next move would be the independence of Australasia. With these political machinations of a politico-ecclesiastical body the true follower of Jesus will have nothing to do. He lived under the sway of a power that held the world in a grip of iron, yet He paid His tribute money unprotestingly, and was never found stirring up trouble for the Government. We cannot be His true followers unless we follow His example.

By "adulterating" its gas with nitrogen, Oldham (England) has halved its gas bill.

IN 1914 Brazil grew no maize at all. Now she is the second largest producer of maize in the world.

THE manufacture of chocolate and cigarettes will shortly be prohibited in Germany, it is expected.

THE Persian Government has decided to make Persia one of the great tea-growing countries of the world.

THE British Peace Delegation in Paris cost, between December, 1918, and September 30, 1919, over £500,000.

NEARLY £300,000,000 has been estimated to be the increase in wealth of British farmers during the late war.

MORE than 60,000 people have returned to the ruins of Rheims, where they are mostly living in the miles of wine cellars.

OF the making of books there is no end. In 1919 exactly 8,622 new books were published in the United Kingdom, an increase of 900 over 1918.

FORTY-EIGHT persons in Hawaii afflicted with leprosy have been cured during 1919, according to the statement of Dr. J. T. McDonald, attending physician at the Kalihi Leprosy Investigation Station, Honolulu. The products used in treating the disease are refined from a vegetable oil.

A BACHELOR Tax was recently passed by the French Parliament, which increased the normal income tax by 25 per cent, and is levied on men and women alike who have passed their thirtieth year. Married people who have been married two years on January 1 of each fiscal year, and who have no children, are also liable.

AN agreement was concluded last month between German and American firms for the delivery to Germany of food stuffs to the value of 2,750,000,000 marks, the money to be paid in instalments stretching over two years. The agreement calls for the early delivery of wheat and meat, also for 400,000 cases of milk, 50,000 pigs, and 20,000 head of cattle.

DR. R. A. FARRAR, speaking at Harrow on "Germs as Friends and Foes," said disease germs were sometimes conveyed in "droplets" of saliva. Experiments had been made with harmless germs in the House of Commons which showed that germs could be conveyed from a speaker's mouth to the opposite side of the House during ordinary speaking.

THE first Synod of the Diocesan Bishops of the Church of Wales was held in the ancient parish church overlooking the lake on the outskirts of the town of Llandrinod Wells. The place and the hour of meeting were secretly arranged, and the election of the first Archbishop took place in the early hours of the morning before the town was awake.

THE wife of a British officer residing at Peshawar, India, in the absence of her husband, was carried off one night recently by a gang of Afridi ruffians. Police and military bodies set out in pursuit, and the Afridi chiefs called out a rescue party of 1,000 men. The lady was rescued and brought to Jumrud within thirty-six hours. No ransom was paid.

OF the twenty-four cases of cataract treated with radium by two physicians, improved vision is reported in 50 per cent, with some improvement in 87.5 per cent. In the treatment, which was continued from three months to a year, the radium was fixed a little less than an inch in front of the eyelid, which was closed. Harmful soft rays were screened out by a filter of suitable kind. No injurious effects on the eye have been observed.

WITH the present demand for fine furs, the cultivation of commercial relations with the Canadian North is found to be highly profitable, and it looks at present as though a larger production of fur material will come from the sub-Arctic next year than ever before, says a United States Commerce report. Traders are planning on an extra busy season and the Indians are sending down word that the prospects for an abundant fur catch were never better.

AMERICA has become the principal buyer of diamonds in the world. It is said that an actual majority of the stones mined in South Africa last year have either gone or are on their way to the States—and the De Beers syndicate alone produced nearly £4,000,000 there in 1919. Last year Great Britain sent £1,332,982 of cut, but not set, diamonds to the United States. Of unset pearls it sent £1,069,492. During the current year the rate of import is growing tremendously.

BRITAIN lent to her allies for the war over 1,600 million pounds, made up thus:—

Russia	...	...	£568,000,000
France	...	...	£470,500,000
Italy	...	...	£470,000,000
Belgium	...	...	£86,500,000
Other Allies	...	...	£71,000,000

In addition she has lent over twenty-one millions for reconstruction since the war.

IN the soft beds of mud that line so many of Brazil's sluggish rivers, a certain plant grows so profusely that an estimated total of 100,000 tons could be exported annually. This plant is now known as the raw material from which cellulose is obtained for the manufacture of linen paper; but recent experiments show that the fibres may be transformed chemically into an artificial cotton fibre, of structure even superior to that of the genuine article. One mill is now busy with this new work, while efforts are being made to adapt abandoned sugar mills to the process.

CAPTAIN H. H. THOMAS, formerly of the Royal Air Force, gave the first of three Cantor lectures on "Aircraft Photography in War and Peace" at the Royal Society of Arts recently. He did not think anyone could deny that, though the German apparatus in the early days of the war was good, the Germans were behind us because they continued to use hand-held cameras and antiquated methods. Not until later on did they get abreast of us. We recognised very early that for military purposes the vertical photograph was of more value than the hand-held photograph taken over the side of the machine. The services, he added, which British optical firms had rendered in making special lenses for aerial work during the war

could not be praised too highly, and credit was also due to British plate makers, who were able to satisfy the requirements of fastness and colour-sensitiveness in spite of the difficulties of manufacture. As evidence of the rapidity of photographic work, he mentioned that when our troops were approaching Jerusalem they encountered many difficulties, and the Air Force were ordered to co-operate with the Survey in producing a new map. Within two days the required map was in the hands of the troops, and five days later Jerusalem was taken.

Plight of Germany's Children

OVER 1,000,000 children in the great cities of Germany are reported ill from under-nourishment. Of these there are 200,633 afflicted with tuberculosis—a disease from which the very young are usually immune. The total child population of the great cities is 3,384,000, so that more than one-fourth are diseased through starvation. Latterly, conditions in many German districts have become worse than in Austria, and it was stated by officers of the Save-the-Children Fund in March that of children alone 2,500,000 in Germany were condemned to death or life-long disease, unless conditions could be quickly improved. The relief workers were aiming to provide each destitute child with a free meal each day, but in Leipzig they had to leave out 27,000 children who were known to be under-nourished. The cost of the free meals is 2/- per week for each child.

Where Old Uniforms Go

"WHAT becomes of the hundreds of thousands of cast-off uniforms left with the British Army authorities? According to a Whitechapel dealer, some go to Eastern Europe, some to Africa, some to India and Japan. In the distressed districts of Russia, the Balkans and Poland, there is a keen demand for the warm blankets and woollen clothing no longer wanted for war use. The material in these is much superior to most of what has been manufactured for civilians of late. African natives are not enamoured of the drab colours of present-day uniforms, but they purchase khaki tunics in goodly numbers. Kilts they consider in excellent form, but they have no liking for the trousers, so these are sold mostly to miners and navvies in Britain. Thousands of uniforms go to the colder districts of India for the natives' use. To Japan also there is a considerable sale, and the Whitechapel man suspects that the cast-offs are cut down to the smaller measure of the Japanese 'Tommy.'"

To Our Readers

IN our issue of July 5 one of the reasons given for the change in the SIGNS OF THE TIMES to its present form was the success which attended the sale of our SIGNS EXTRAS. As there seems to be a misunderstanding on the part of some of our readers with reference to this matter, we wish to make a further statement which we feel sure will be appreciated by all. Owing to the high cost of production of all classes of literature on account of the heavy increase in raw materials, all publishers have been compelled to raise their prices on books and periodicals. We reluctantly had to increase the prices of our subscription books during the war, but hoped that this would not be necessary on our smaller lines of publications or our periodicals; in fact until recently no change was made on these lines even though they were selling below cost of manufacture. But the loss on our weekly periodical became so serious, owing to the ever increasing high cost of paper, that most careful consideration was given to the question as to whether we should change the retail price. Several propositions were discussed, such as reducing the number of pages but still retaining the same size of page, increasing the price to 2d. per copy, or enlarging the size of page and making each issue four pages only. It was finally decided, in the interests of our readers, to adopt the latter plan, as we felt sure they would prefer this to an increase in price. Even this change will not solve the problem of cost, as each issue is still being printed at a considerable loss. We sincerely trust that before long the paper market will improve to such an extent that we will be able to add additional pages to our present size, or make other changes which will enable us to furnish our readers with more articles each week. In the meantime we feel confident that our workers and readers generally will continue to give us their hearty co-operation in our efforts to increase the circulation of the SIGNS OF THE TIMES.

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