

# Signs of the Times

BRINGS THE MESSAGE OF CHRIST

Volume 61, Number 34 Price 1d.  
Warburton, Victoria, August 26, 1946

## BUSINESS "Principle" and CONSCIENCE

LESLIE HARDINGE

"Man's conscience is the lamp of the Eternal, flashing into his inmost soul."—Prov. 20: 27, Moffatt's translation.

WRITING of the customs of the people in the North-West Frontier Province of India, John Gunther says in his book, "Inside Asia": "Many of the primitive folk live by raiding. So the local proverb says, 'A moonlight night is my daughter's dowry.'" He goes on to describe how a mother will cut a hole in the side of her hut and thrust her newborn son through it three times, with the incantation, "Be a thief!"

In southern India there are thugs who look upon all booty as "blessings" from God! Should one find a watch lying on a table, his heart is lifted up in gratitude that this gift from the gods has been placed at his disposal!

In "The Land and the Book," W. M. Thomson describes a conversation he had with some inhabitants of Palestine who refused to work, and lived by pillage. The missionary tried to point out the benefits to be gained from systematic cultivation of the land. At this the leader of the group of men raised himself to his full height saying: "I am a bandit, and my fathers have been bandits before me!" He was proud of his calling!

What queer consciences some people have, you say, adding no doubt: "But, of course, these people are uncivilized." Yet how many so-called "civilized" people are doing things no better than these thugs and bandits! What of those who trade in the "black market"? What of those who would calmly buy double or ten times their ration of goods, paying ten times or even one hundred times the price and knowing full well that some poor



soul would have to do without? Yet their consciences do not seem to trouble them! Their business "principles" cannot bear the light of day, but grovel "behind the counter."

Five minutes' consideration will prove that people's consciences vary enormously. Moreover, they change with time, causing some to condone one day what they condemn the next.

Is the conscience then a reliable guide in matters of morality? Is it right for me to do certain things because my conscience permits me, and wrong for you to do the same things because your conscience forbids you? Is it right for me to get drunk, and for you to remain sober? Can the

[Please turn to page 5.]

# Current Topics Reviewed



## "Own Greatest Enemy"

**H** THE sheik Abraham had arrived in Egypt from Ur of the Chaldees. Accompanying him was his wife, family, and retainers. Sara, his wife, was a singularly beautiful woman. In all, the advent of this caravan caused quite a stir in the ancient land of the Pharaohs.

With typical eastern cunning the sheik, thinking the worst of Pharaoh, and very kindly of his own preservation, let it be known that Sara was his sister. The pharaoh promptly took her to wife, but before the union could be consummated, God intervened, revealing to the king the true state of affairs. Realizing the crime in which Abraham's trickery had almost involved him, and the ridiculous position he now held before his subjects, Pharaoh sent the caravan packing, accompanied with his upbraidings and righteous indignation. The heathen monarch possessed higher principles than the materialistically minded patriarch. Gen. 12: 10-20

Likewise, the entire history of the family of Abraham from that day to this bristles with reverses due to human politics. In every case the nation has over-reached itself by depending more on crafty scheming than upon the directions of God. For brief seasons the chosen people prospered—but only as they accepted the leadership of their divine King. When they resorted again to their own artfulness, despising the messages of the prophets and the law, national disaster ensued.

## Active Christianity

**H** IN a current Christian newspaper the question is asked, "How can the average Christian hope to influence non-Christians among whom he works?" It is a vital and timely question, and all who profess the name of Christ should constantly and prayerfully seek the answer.

There is a tendency today for Christians to be most careful to keep their religion to themselves, as if it were something of which to be ashamed. This reticence on the part of so many professed Christians is surely one reason for the general lack of interest in spiritual things displayed by so many.

For if those who are in a position to know by experience the joy and freedom of the Christ-life are so indifferent about it as to refrain from discussing it with their non-Christian friends, will these friends regard it as a matter of supreme and urgent importance to themselves—a matter indeed, of life or death?

It is passing strange that Christianity, the only religion which can fill the heart with peace and satisfaction, which can enable a man to live this life triumphantly and die in the certain hope of a glorious hereafter, is the only religion of which men are ashamed. Devotees of the great heathen systems speak of their vain hopes and empty forms with readiness and enthusiasm; but too many so-called Christians will discuss sport, fashion, or politics with animation, but will veer away from any approach to spiritual topics.

To answer the question, then, How can the average Christian hope to influence non-Christians among whom he works? the first requirement is for him to gain a new experience of what it should mean to him to be a Christian, and what it will mean to his associates not to be.

Is he conscious of the upwelling spring of living water in his own heart? Is the love of Jesus the greatest single factor in his life—greater than prosperity, or success, or worldly honour? Do joy and peace possess his soul in the face of wrongs and injuries and losses?

If one has not such a personal experience of the power and blessing of Christianity, it should be sought earnestly by prayer and Bible study. If one has it, his most powerful influence

will be that unconsciously exerted on all with whom he comes in contact. His life will present the greatest argument for the excellence of his faith.

True Christianity is radiant and diffusive in its influence. The fragrance of Christ in the life cannot be hidden. One who has a personal knowledge of the saving power of the gospel will not be content to live to himself. He will embrace every opportunity of telling others that the joy he has found is for them too.

His own personal testimony will awaken desire and conviction. In order to convince another of the broad and sure foundations of his faith, the Christian layman will probably need the help of books and papers and tracts which powerfully set out the great teachings upon which Christianity is based. The wise distribution of such literature, and the discussion of the points set out, will stimulate a growing interest.

But work for souls cannot be done by human methods and human wisdom. A man can present the arguments, but only God can awaken conviction and bring about the miracle of the new birth. Every layman who is seeking to influence his associates for Christ should pray much for them, that the Holy Spirit may exert His divine power to touch their hearts and bring new life to their souls.

How may a man influence others for Christ? First, by giving in his own life a living demonstration of the Christ-life in action, its victory and its joy; second, by tactfully presenting the truths of his faith; third, by constantly upholding in prayer those for whom he is working. If Christians would return to such methods, they would be amazed at the result. Let us determine to find for ourselves the joy of being "labourers together with God."

M. M. H.



► Snow scene on a mountain road back of the SIGNS publishing house. Record snow has fallen on the highlands of Victoria this year.

# The Scientific Accuracy of the Bible!

Resume of an address given by  
W. J. GILSON, B.A., B.Ed.

The opening of the Christian era followed the same pattern. Religious rulers and national leaders alike spurned the greatest revelation of divine direction in the person of the long-expected Messiah. In spite of His having demonstrated in His life every specification of prophecy as proof of His claims—blinded by a materialistic political creed they shrieked to highest heaven that the curse of God should rest upon their race rather than accept His plan for it. God could do no more. The only alternative He had, apart from His individual plan, was to fulfil their national demand—“His blood be on us, and on our children.” Matt. 27: 25. The demand was unanimous with no dissenting voices.

From that day to this although the Hebrew race has produced some of the greatest characters in history, and still possesses them, the Jew continues to be “his own greatest enemy.” The terroristic activities of the Zealot party in all parts of the Roman empire, brought down the wrath of the emperors upon the race in horrible persecutions and the complete destruction of old Jerusalem.

The twentieth century witnesses the same tragic tale. “The curse causeless shall not come.” Prov. 26: 2. The latest Jewish terrorist outrage is the blowing up of the King David Hotel in Jerusalem with casualties involving heavy loss of life. Back in 1925 the Bulgarian Jew Kolarow, who is now virtually Russian governor of Bulgaria, blew up the Sofia Cathedral with the intention of destroying the king, and personnel of the military command. The plot misfired, as the king being called to another function, was not present. “But one hundred and twenty-three victims—mainly women and children—were buried in a common grave.”

Allied therefore with violence and extreme political elements it is not surprising that a reputation has been maintained which has brought forth its own fruits. “AREN'T FIVE MILLION DEAD ENOUGH?” screams a placard borne by a protest marcher in New York against British policy in Palestine. Read it to yourselves, O Hebrews! “It is hard for thee to kick against the pricks.”

One thing that seems hardest for men of all races to learn is the lesson of history. Experience over three thousand years has shown the folly of placing as first importance the acquisition of living space, food and drink, and raiment. The lesson of this history is summed up in the well-known words of the world's Messiah—“Seek ye first the kingdom of God, and His righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.” Matt. 6: 33. When a Hebrew, or any man for that matter, learns thus to put first things first, then shall

THE Psalmist's declaration, “Thy Word is true from the beginning,” (Ps. 119: 160), may be understood in two senses each equally apt. “Thy Word is true from the beginning,” i.e., from its very first word; or from the beginning of time. In this address no endeavour will be made to defend the Scripture; the Bible has long withstood the puny attacks of its critics. Nor will any apologies be offered, for we do not make common cause with that group of Christians who, while professing to believe His name, disbelieve the direct claims of His Word; and, while profuse in their apologetic praises, skilfully undermine faith in its divine inspiration.

If there is an eternal omnipotent God it is reasonable to endeavour to discover whether He has communicated with men. Certain books claim to be inspired writings. But among them and surpassing all in the grandeur of its revelation and the sublime loveliness of its moral beauty is the Bible. Boldly Paul, the great apostle, bears testimony, “All Scripture is given by inspiration of God” (2 Tim. 3: 16), and the Bible must stand or fall by the results of the tests of the genuineness of the claim. The issue is too vital to be lightly regarded. Either this Book is the living Word of the living God or it is the greatest deception ever imposed upon its gullible dupes.

There are many ways to test the claims of the Scripture. God Himself in its pages has given many direct challenges to the unbeliever and to those who are “willingly ignorant,” but at this time only one can be considered—the Scientific Accuracy of the Word of God.

the blessings promised to Abraham be his, for now “there is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus. And if ye be Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.” Gal. 3: 28, 29.

Candidly now, dear reader, who is your greatest enemy? R. P. B.

We live in a scientific age when men demand objective proofs for that which they accept as truth. Can the Bible stand such tests? The findings of science have changed so many of man's long-accepted philosophies, can the Scriptures emerge unscathed?

Let us note first of all that the Bible is not a textbook on science. It claims to be a revelation of God to man and a transcript of His will for His creatures, and as such it might be said that any scientific inaccuracies would not detract from its real purpose. But no attempt will be made to evade the issue. If it is the eternal Word of an omnipotent God even its allusions to natural phenomena should be in harmony with all demonstrable scientific truth.

All we claim is the right for this Book to use the language of appearance, as we do ourselves, rather than the strict phraseology of the textbook on science, e.g., we all understand what is meant when the expression is used, “The sun rises in the east and sets in the west.” Actually this occurrence should be expressed scientifically in terms of the rotation of the earth. There is of course no discrepancy or contradiction in such expressions.

The remarkable point to emphasize is that this old Book, dating back some 3,500 years, has avoided all of the scientific absurdities found in all other ancient writings—and in many other writings too, which are not so old.

Let us first consider some facts about our earth.

To the ancients the earth was the centre of the universe. (Ptolemaic theory.)

It was supported on some type of fixed foundations.

To many of them it was flat.

To the learned men of that day the Bible must have seemed most unscientific, for what pictures does it give us of the earth?

First of all the Bible definitely teaches that the earth is not the centre of the universe. Job 26: 14 (Revised Version), speaking of the garnished (starry) heavens, which includes our earth, declares that these are but the “outskirts” of His ways, or as one translator has

put it, These are but "the borders of His works."

As for the earth's being supported on fixed foundations, in the seventh verse of the same chapter we are told "He stretcheth out the north over the empty place, and hangeth the earth upon nothing." Later the rhetorical question is asked of Job 38: 6, R.V., "Whereupon are the sockets of the earth made to sink?" The shape of the earth is clearly described by Isa. 40: 22. "He sitteth upon [above] the circle [globe or sphere] of the earth."

For centuries these truths were in the Word of God, but when the founders of modern science began to declare them to an incredulous world Rome opposed itself to these teachings. However, while the church racked men's bodies, the truth racked their minds and gradually truth triumphed only to find itself in harmony with the long-established teaching of God's Word.

The relation of the earth and the sun is beautifully expressed in Job 38: 14. "It is turned as clay to the seal; and they [all things, R.V.] stand [forth, R.V.] as a garment." Thus in a few words is stated all that men have discovered of the relationship between the earth and the sun. The earth, day by day, even hour by hour, by the rotation on its axis and by the yearly journey in its orbit, is turned to the sun. And the sun touches the earth with light and leaves there its impression even as the seal touches and impresses the clay.

Over 2,000 years before Toricelli, the disciple of Galileo, demonstrated that the atmosphere exerts pressure and invented the barometer, Job declared in chapter 28, verses 24 and 25: "For He looketh to the ends of the earth, . . . to make the weight for the winds." Almost fifteen pounds to the square inch, over a ton to the square foot, the atmospheric pressure upon the earth is estimated at five hundred million millions of tons. And the Bible once again anticipated the discoveries of science.

And there are many other references which time does not permit us to include. The Bible states the mystery of the transfer of light and kindred phenomena, gravity, electricity, heat, etc. A literal translation of Job 38: 24 is "By what way is the light distributed?" and the question remains unanswered to this day. We know what these forces do but we do not know how they do it. As Professor J. P. Cooke of Harvard University has stated, "In regard to the law of gravitation we know a great deal; but in regard to the force of gravitation we know absolutely nothing, and the same is true of every other force."

In Eccl. 1: 6, 7 we have statements in full harmony with the system of prevailing winds, that blow in Palestinian regions and with the principles of evaporation and condensation so fully accepted today. Coming to the twelfth chapter of the same book, we have a poetic description of old age ending in death and the language exactly corresponds to the requirements of anatomy and physiology. Eccl. 12: 6, 7. The silver cord [spinal column, centre of nervous system] ending in the golden bowl [the cavity containing the brain]. Note the reference to the pitcher [the lungs] and the wheel broken at the cistern [the heart]. Centuries before Harvey announced the circulation of the blood, Solomon used a metaphor which was exactly in accord with it. A wheel pumping up from one source to discharge through another.

The Bible teaches that the human family originated from a single pair (Gen. 3: 20), a fact long controverted. Recently I listened to a doctor in this city demonstrating from the well-established findings of Gregor Mendel that it was quite within the realms of possibility and probability for our first parents to have had within themselves all the varying characteristics which now separate the human family into so many different races.

Time will not permit us at all to touch the astounding proofs of the historical accuracy of the Bible found in the discoveries of archæology. This must form the subject of another address. But the very stones affirm today the histo-



ricity of Belshazzar, the Hittites, the fall of Jericho, and many other stories so triumphantly scorned by the higher critics of a few years past.

But I think I can hear someone impatiently saying to himself, "Why doesn't he say something about the Bible teaching of creation and the Flood? Surely the theory of evolution has disproved all that!" Very well, let us consider some vital principles in this connection. First let us state somewhat categorically that the theory of evo-

lution has not overthrown the truthfulness of the Bible's statements regarding creation and the Flood. And let me point out that it takes more than a theory to demolish truth. Theories must themselves be tested and proved before they can be used to demolish contrary ideas. Some of the claims made by so-called men of science have not themselves been proved, and let us confidently assert that no scientific truth has yet been objectively demonstrated which is out of harmony with Bible truth.

Right here we need to call for a clarifying of terms. What is meant when we use the term *evolution*? If we mean simply change, variation, adaptation to environment these things which are everywhere apparent, then there is no difference of opinion, for these demonstrable scientific facts are not opposed to Bible teaching.

But if by evolution we mean the uniformitarianism of Lyell, that is, that physical processes similar to those now going on are sufficient to account for the events of the past, or if we include a long process of natural selection such as was taught by Darwin, then we join issue at once, for these things are not only contrary both to the facts of science and Scripture, but they are definitely the subject of a remarkable Bible prophecy. 2 Peter 3: 3-6. Here the last-day scoffers are said to be willingly ignorant of the facts of creation and the Flood, and to affirm that all things continue as they were from the beginning of the creation. What are the claims of the Bible in this respect? Ex. 20: 8-11; Gen. 2: 1-3, state that (1) the Lord made the earth in six days, (2) that He finished it, and (3) that in harmony with His creative law ten times repeated in the first chapter of Genesis, everything was to reproduce after its own kind. The Bible also teaches that the world was once destroyed by a flood and only eight people and certain animals were saved in an ark. Now what has science to say of all this? Regarding creation, let me read the words of the great English astronomer Sir James Jeans in his book, "The Mysterious Universe," page 133. "There must have been what we may describe as a creation at a time not infinitely remote," and again, "Modern scientific theory compels us to conceive of the Creator as working outside time and space, which are part of His creation just as an artist is outside his canvas." What a commentary on Genesis 1!

Speaking of Darwin, Cunningham the biologist says, "The theory of natural selection is obsolete," while Dr. Austin Clark of the Smithsonian Institute has

written in the *Literary Digest* of February 16, 1929, "So far as concerns the major groups of animals the creationists seem to have the better of the argument. There is not the slightest evidence that any of the major groups arose from any other. Each is a special animal complex related more or less closely to all the rest and appearing therefore as a special and distinct creation."

So here are modern scientists bearing unconscious testimony to the truthfulness of Bible teaching. As for the Flood, throughout the whole earth the geologic testimony gives evidence to the unbiased mind of some overwhelming catastrophe such as the Flood which at one time overtook this planet. The strata of the rocks are not evenly distributed in some set order which can be tabulated by an artificial system like the fossil index. Hundreds of square miles of rocks may be observed laid down in defiance of the accepted order—strata torn and twisted by such forces as are certainly not active in the world today. Fossils are to be found in such abundance and in a state of such remarkable preservation that it is only possible to conclude that they were overwhelmed by some sudden catastrophe.

But our time is more than gone. Let us say this in conclusion. There have been times in the past when the Bible and accepted theories of so-called science have been at variance.

But where this has occurred it has not been the Bible which has changed its position to produce harmony. Isa. 40: 8. The difficulty today is for the man of science to keep up to date. People who do not specialize in this type of study are apt to find themselves championing theories already discarded by their more progressive fellows. The "London Journal of Education" long ago declared that a scientific textbook is out of date in eight years. Is the Bible then to be set at naught by theories which, believed today, are cast into oblivion tomorrow? Listen again to Sir James Jeans as he concludes his address at the Cambridge University: "So that our main contention can hardly be that science of today has a pronouncement to make, perhaps it ought rather to be that science should leave off making pronouncements: the river of knowledge has too often turned back on itself." Here is portrayed the real scientific attitude which seeks truth but realizing the vast limits of the unknown hesitates to rush in and declare as sound philosophy, a theory resting on uncertain foundations.

Sufficient for the Christian is it to know that this Book which so far has

been found in harmony with all fully demonstrated scientific truth will continue to be in harmony with all the facts which can be objectively sustained.

We return to our text, "Thy Word is true from the beginning," and we know in our souls that the honest seeker after truth will always find perfect harmony in the inspired Word and the luminous work of the Great Creator.

Let us have perfect confidence to accept both, as our guide and stay in this life and as our surety for the life to come.



## BUSINESS PRINCIPLE AND CONSCIENCE

(Continued from page 1)

conscience advocate opposite courses in similar circumstances and be right for both of us?

The answer is emphatically No! An act is either right or wrong. Conscience has nothing to do with making it correct or incorrect. Right is established by a higher authority than is to be found in the heart of changeable man. It is the standard of conduct given by God in Jesus Christ, and recorded in the Bible. God's standard of right and wrong does not change. On the contrary, the alternating human attitude toward right and wrong simply illustrates the fickleness and unreliability of man's conscience.

There are those, however, who admit the fickle nature of the conscience but conclude that what one's conscience tells him to do must be right in any case. This view permits as many standards of conduct as there are individual possessors of consciences. The effect, so prevalent today, is confusion worse confounded.

To counter such a contingency, the Lord said through His servant: "Ye shall not do after all the things that we do here this day, every man whatsoever is right in his own eyes" (Deut. 12: 8); for "there is a way that seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death." Prov. 16: 25. God therefore condemns individual norms of conduct. There is only one criterion for Christians—the character of Christ.

What then is the Biblical view about the reliability of our consciences? The Book of God tells us of two kinds of

conscience—good and bad. First, let us consider the bad conscience.

Paul warns against conduct in circumstances "when ye sin so against the brethren, and wound their weak conscience." 1 Cor. 8: 12. What is a "weak conscience"? It is the condition into which the conscience is sometimes plunged by altered circumstances, or by conflicting advice from well-wishers. It refers to the time when there is no fixed principle to direct and the conscience is not strong enough to take the helm firmly. To one in this condition of doubt, the apostle declares: "How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?" Heb. 9: 14. Paul urges the need for purging such a conscience. Errors of judgment must be removed, with every defiling factor, for to "them that are defiled and unbelieving is nothing pure; but even their mind and conscience is defiled." Titus 1: 15. A weak conscience if not purged may become a defiled one.

Unless this purifying work is done a man might have his "conscience seared with a hot iron." 1 Tim. 4: 2. In this final condition he feels nothing. His sensitive nature is hardened. His conscience lifts no warning voice. It is dead.

Christ takes away our sins; therefore, "let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water." Heb. 10: 22. Thus, far from constituting a reliable guidance to all, the conscience may be weak, defiled, seared, or evil. If it is in this state, it must be brought to Christ and purged, strengthened, purified, and washed.

The conscience thus cleansed will be a power for good. Paul tells us in 1 Tim. 3: 9 that we should hold "the mystery of the faith [the gospel] in a pure conscience." Peter says: "Sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: . . . having a good conscience." 1 Peter 3: 15, 16. Then, like the Apostle Paul, we, too, shall be able to exercise ourselves "to have always a conscience void of offence toward God, and toward men." Acts 24: 16. For one whose "conscience is defiled" is "void of judgment." Titus 1: 15, 16, margin. His words are like a "gangrene" (2 Tim. 2: 17 margin), and he will finally be "alienated from the life of God." Eph. 4: 18. Hypocrites are in this category. 1 Tim. 4: 2.

Even when the conscience is purged it is possible to ignore and finally to silence its voice. So Paul advises Timothy to hold the "faith, and a good conscience; which some having put away

concerning faith have made shipwreck." 1 Tim. 1: 19. See also verses 5, 6. Paul declares that the criterion for a good conscience is the Word. It is only when the clock is set right that it indicates the correct time. It is only when the conscience is set by the Word of God that it will indicate correct conduct and condemn the false.

"Man's conscience is the lamp of the Eternal, flashing into his inmost soul." Prov. 20: 27, Moffatt's translation. This word "candle," or "lamp," translated "conscience" by Moffatt is first encountered in connection with the seven-branched candlestick of the tabernacle. It is translated "candlestick" in Exodus and elsewhere in the Authorized Version. In Job 18: 5, 6 we read: "Yea, the light [same word as "conscience" in Prov. 20: 27] of the wicked shall be put out, and the spark of his fire shall not shine. The light shall be dark in his tabernacle, and his candle [conscience] shall be put out with him." As the candlestick was the only light in the tabernacle, so the "candle of the Lord" is the only true illumination of the soul. When it is extinguished, man is in darkness. Job 21: 17; 29: 3; Prov. 24: 20. The conscience of man is lighted by Christ Himself. So David could sing: "Thou wilt light my candle: the Lord my God will enlighten my darkness." Ps. 18: 28. It must also be with us that "Thy Word is a candle unto my feet, and a light unto my path." Ps. 119: 105, margin.

"Conscience" comes from a Latin root meaning, "with knowledge." The Greek word indicates "consciousness," or "awareness." Thus in its use in the Bible "conscience" means the awareness of God's will that every sincere seeker for righteousness possesses when God has illumined him.

The Master warns us: "Take heed therefore that the light which is in thee be not darkness. If thy whole body therefore be full of light, having no part dark, the whole shall be full of light, as when the bright shining of a candle doth give thee light." Luke 11: 35, 36. Thus may the inner consciousness of right and wrong, implanted in the human heart since the fall (see Gen. 3: 15), be illumined more fully by Christ. It may be developed to shine "more and more unto the perfect day." It may, on the other hand, be permitted to go out.

Let us therefore bring our aspirations toward righteousness and good to the standard of all righteousness—Christ. In the words of Paul: "Be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing ["relighting," literal Greek] of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God." Rom. 12: 2.



# Stories for the Children



## Herbert's Faithful Friend

E. R. POTTER

**M**ANY monuments have been erected as tributes to men and women who have endeared themselves to their fellow citizens, but monuments are rarely erected to the memory of our dear animal friends.

In the beautiful Riverside cemetery of Alma, Michigan, stands a life-sized statue of a dog.

Having never seen anything like this before in a cemetery, I took a picture of it, and then started out to learn the story back of the monument. What I learned was of so much interest to me, that I want to pass it along to you boys and girls.

Not far from our home in Alma live a Mr. and Mrs. H. N. Stoddard whose grandson, Herbert, lived with them from early boyhood until the time of his death in 1935, when he was eighteen years of age.

Herbert had an accidental fall when he was a very young boy. He gradually became an invalid, and was compelled to drop out of school after taking the second grade. He lived in a wheelchair except at night when he was in bed.

When the weather permitted, Herbert's favourite place was out in the yard under the trees near a fishpond. He learned to read, and enjoyed most of all the Bible and books on geography and history. But along with his read-

ing he loved everything he saw in nature about him.

The police dog, Jack, joined the Stoddard family when he was only seven months old and Herbert but seven years of age. Jack had been with the family but a few days when he "adopted" Herbert as a constant companion, and that companionship was never broken for eleven years.

On the day of Herbert's funeral, a near neighbour kept Jack in their home until the family returned from the cemetery, which was more than a mile away. As far as the family knew, Jack had never been to the cemetery in his life. Early the next morning Jack went from room to room of the Stoddard home, looking for his master, and then outside. He searched everywhere in the immediate neighbourhood, and at times would raise his head high and sniff the air. Suddenly, while no one was watching, he disappeared. By noon the children of the neighbourhood and even the city police joined in a search for the dog. Toward evening, the caretaker at the cemetery called to let the Stoddard family know that their dog was at Herbert's grave and had been there all day. Mr. Stoddard went immediately by car and found Jack lying down on the grave of his master. It was with some difficulty that he could be persuaded to get into the car and go home.

For a year after that time, Jack had a constant desire to visit that grave; and if the family let several days pass by without taking him over to the cemetery, he would go alone and stay until they would come after him. And he would do that even in the winter with its cold and snow.

From the day of Herbert's death, Jack would not eat as much, nor as frequently, as formerly, and a year later he went to sleep one night and never woke up again.

Because of this experience, Mr. and Mrs. Stoddard sent photographs of the dog to a well-known company who furnishes monuments, and asked them to make a life-sized stone image of Jack.

In due time the white stone monument arrived, and the very likeness of Jack stands at the foot of the grave of his beloved master. It is a fitting tribute to the undying devotion of one of the human family's best animal friends.

# from Every Land

► UNITED States scientists are capable of making a single atomic bomb which would explode with all the destructive force of one million ten-ton block-busters, declares Dr. Edward U. Condon, director of the National Bureau of Standards.

► THERE are now 367 Roman Catholic newspapers and periodicals published in the United States, with a total circulation of 10,654,918, reports the 1945 Catholic Press Directory. There are four Catholic daily foreign-language newspapers: two in Polish, one in Lithuanian, and one in Czechoslovakian.

► No sand or gravel is needed for laying footpaths, roads, or airfield runways when the versatile Rototiller, primarily a cultivator, is used for making soil cement by mixing dry cement and dirt. Revolving steel tines under the machine mix earth and cement uniformly to a depth of from one to twelve inches, as desired. The mixture then needs only to be sprinkled and rolled.

► HARDLY a handful, a new fire extinguisher quenches blazes as quickly and thoroughly as extinguishers much larger and heavier. It contains liquid methyl bromide, a solvent that replaced carbon dioxide in the automatic fire-fighting systems of R.A.F. fighters and bombers. One turn of a simple valve releases a six-foot stream of methyl bromide, forced out by its own pressure, which vaporizes instantly and chokes the flame with a gas heavier than carbon dioxide or carbon tetra-chloride vapour. The gas is equally effective in putting out rubbish, oil, petrol, and electrical fires, and does not wet things, stain textiles, or ruin paint. The cylinder is refillable.

► THE new products promised for the post-war world are beginning to pour from laboratories. Things like:—

*Insulating material* so efficient that your new refrigerator, though no bigger than your old one will hold forty per cent more food.

*A baking powder* that doesn't produce bubbles until the dough is in the oven—thereby making lighter scones than grandma ever dreamed of.

*A chemical treatment* for overalls, sportswear, or children's clothing that triples the life of the garments.

► SMOKERS complain of cough 300 per cent more often than non-smokers, according to a study of 2,000 smokers and non-smokers by the Life Extension Examiners. Other results of the survey indicate that smokers complain of throat and nose irritation 167 per cent more than non-smokers; palpitation, 50 per cent more; pain over the heart, 73 per cent more; short breath, 140 per cent more; heartburn, 100 per cent more; stomach gas, 62 per cent more; and nervousness, 76 per cent more.

► THE sending of radio signals to submerged craft hundreds of miles away and the transmitting of return signals from undersea craft while below the surface of the water have been described as possibilities in the near future by D. W. R. McKinley, a Canadian physicist of the National Research Laboratories. A land station, such as that at Rugby, England, radiating 500,000 watts, should be able to send signals that could be detected by a submarine a thousand miles at sea.

► ELECTROMAGNETS almost one hundred times as large as the 184-inch cyclotron at Berkeley, California, previously considered the world's largest magnet, were used at the Oak Ridge atomic bomb plants in Tennessee, according to R. R. Wisner, engineer connected with the project. "A strong effort was required to keep a nail in a workman's hand from twisting his wrist," Wisner says. "An ordinary wrench would be wrested from a man's hand, or if he held on, he would be dragged against the magnetic force, suffering bruises or skinned knuckles. We had to use nonmagnetic steels in tools and near-by equipment."

► "BROKEN homes are the direct cause of most cases of juvenile delinquency and an increase in divorces indicates that there will be an alarming increase in delinquency in the near future," says the Los Angeles *Herald Express*. Our *Sunday Visitor*, in commenting on this statement, declares: "Never was the divorce rate in the United States nearly as large as it is today, and never was crime so rampant. . . . In the single county in which Los Angeles is situated, during the year 1945, an average of one hundred domestic relations cases were filed each day, as against seventy for the year previous. During one week of January, 2,138 felonies were committed in that western sea-coast city, or an average of three hundred a day. The stealing of motor-cars alone averaged fifty a day for that week. What is true of Los Angeles is comparably true throughout the nation."

# Signs of the Times

PRICE PAYABLE IN ADVANCE

12 months, 5/-; 6 months, All other countries, 10/6 2/6; post free in the Com. Single copies (postage monwealth and N.Z. extra), 1d.

All orders sent direct to the Publishers or their agents, either for single subscriptions or for clubs, must be accompanied by cash.

SIGNS PUBLISHING COMPANY  
(A.C.A. Ltd. Props.)

Warburton :: Victoria :: Australia

• When forwarding Money Orders or Postal Notes, please make same payable to SIGNS PUBLISHING COMPANY, WARBURTON, and not to individuals. All New Zealand remittances should be in the form of Money Orders, as Postal Notes or Stamps are not negotiable in the Commonwealth.

• OUR GENERAL AGENTS: Write the Book and Bible House in your own State:—

Victoria: 8 Yarra Street, Hawthorn, E.2.  
Tasmania: 361 Argyle Street, North Hobart.  
South N.S.W.: 84 The Boulevards, Strathfield.  
North N.S.W.: 21 Gordon Avenue, Hamilton.  
Qld.: 37 O'Connell Ter., Bowen Hills, Brisbane.  
Nth. Qld.: 106 Sturt Street, Townsville (W.).  
South Australia: 82 Angus Street, Adelaide.  
West Australia: 62 Clotilde Street, Mt. Lawley.  
North N.Z.: 27 Esplanade Rd., Mt. Eden, Auckland, C.3.  
South N.Z.: 40 Bealey Avenue, Christchurch.

► FURTHER testimony of archaeology to the accuracy of the Bible has been found in seven letters, written more than 2,400 years ago and discovered by Dr. Sami Gabra, a Coptic archaeologist. Each of the letters begins with religious invocations to pagan deities at the Temple of Nebu at Aswan in Upper Egypt and to the "queen of heaven," mentioned in Jer. 44: 15-17. Dr. Gabra, a professor at the Egyptian University, said: "As we proceed, we expect to find much further proof of the Bible."

► PEANUTS are one of the best sources of B-complex vitamins, especially of niacin.

If the "SIGNS" Should Come to You Unexpectedly—

• We never send out papers that have not been ordered. Should you therefore be receiving the "SIGNS OF THE TIMES" without ordering it yourself, it is being sent by a friend with the hope that you will enjoy it. • If for any reason you should prefer not to accept, would you kindly advise the Publishers by letter. The wishes of all are respected.

Printed and published by Signs Publishing Company (A.C.A. Ltd., Props.), Warburton, Victoria Aust., and registered as a newspaper in Victoria



# GRANOSE

with **HOT** Milk!

On cold mornings give your kiddies the protective INNER WARMTH that comes from a piping-hot GRANOSE breakfast! Particularly rich in whole wheat goodness including the valuable heat-producing carbohydrates—and fortified with added VITAMIN B1—Granose have been a firm favourite with mothers in colder countries for nearly four generations. They save time in the kitchen, too, because you JUST ADD HOT MILK! Obtainable from all grocers.



FREE

"A Book About Babies" by a well known medical authority on bringing up baby. Write to Sanitarium Health Food Co.



#### COLOMBIA

A street cleaner in Colombia, with two-wheeled cart drawn by a pair of oxen, is typical of any of the little towns in the highlands.



# GOD HEARS ALL

MRS. E. E. ANDROSS

A NUMBER of years ago the weird beat of the tomtoms announced the birth of the first son in the home of a Hindu priest in the West Indies. As the little lad grew up, he learned to care for the images, offering them a little food before partaking of it himself. He even learned to officiate in his father's place.

But one day a man called and left some gospel literature at his home. The young man began to read it. Soon he realized that there really is a God who can help in time of need. That was what he had been longing to know, for well he knew that the gods he had been worshipping could not do that. Heaven had heard the cry of that young heart. Through the rift in the cloud of darkness that had enshrouded him, he caught a glimpse of Jesus, the only Saviour of men; and he decided to accept Him regardless of what it might cost him.

From the highest of castes he became an outcaste. He was driven from his father's house. But he had found the pearl of great price. His heart was overflowing with joy, and nothing could turn him back. When I had the pleasure of meeting him a few years ago, he was indeed a happy, energetic Christian worker. He was devoting his life to the distribution of gospel literature that others might find life and hope and happiness in the same blessed gospel that had brought such wonderful deliverance to him.

Never, I think, shall I forget the feeling that gripped me when I first learned how a certain Indian chief in the interior of British Guiana received the gospel story. It seemed to me that our loving heavenly Father must have grown weary of waiting for our slow human feet to carry the good news to this

chief and his people. Our committee had sent workers to the Indians up around Mount Roraima and were endeavouring to strengthen the slender forces there. But we were years behind God. God knew the longing in the hearts of those children of the forests. His eye had seen their great needs and His ear had heard their cry. That tribe of Indians was far removed from where the missionary had set foot in those days. But with God there are no impossibilities. He spoke directly to the chief.

In a vision the chief saw Jesus, and Jesus told him the story of creation, told him about the fall of man, the plan of salvation, and the second coming of Christ. Further, Jesus told him that some day a missionary would bring them a copy of His Book, the Bible, which would be printed in England.

The vision made a profound impression on the chief. A remarkable reformation followed. The chief put away his many wives, keeping only one of them. Human sacrifices ceased. The seventh-day Sabbath was observed. Although they had no written word, the gospel was preached among them by their chief, whom they called their prophet.

Finally the old chief died. Many lost their way as the years slipped by. But when our missionary found them more than a quarter of a century after the old chief had been given the vision, a large number still were keeping the Sabbath and looking for the return of Jesus. Again and again as the missionary would tell them about the plan of salvation, they would say: "Yes, our chief told us about that." Said our missionary: "They already knew nearly everything I told them about this blessed truth." And when they saw the Bible,

God's Book that had been printed in England, their joy was inexpressible. The words of their old chief had come true at last.

In 1932 I met a lady in Cali, Colombia, whom I had been eager to see. For about thirty years she had been on the stage, visiting many leading countries. When her stage career closed, a few years before I met her, her two sons became more than ever her one all-absorbing interest in life.

But soon the hand of death robbed her of the elder son. She was beside herself with grief! Nothing seemed to help. All her search for relief seemed in vain. But God's ear was not deaf to her cry of despair. Through a friend He directed her to some Christian workers. With them she began to study the Bible.

A change came into her life. Peace and joy filled her heart. She bade farewell to card playing, tobacco using, and other habits that were detrimental to health and character building. When I had the pleasure of meeting her, she was indeed a happy Christian worker, giving her life for the salvation of the lost around her.

Yes, we have a wonderful heavenly Father. He keeps in close touch with this prodigal world. "The eyes of the Lord run to and fro throughout the whole earth." Our loving heavenly Father, who always heard Jesus when He walked here on earth, also heard the cry of Ishmael, and He still hears the cry of every aching heart, for He delights in mercy. He loves poor mortal sinners with an everlasting love, and longs to have them enjoy the good things that He has in store for them in that happy land where sorrow or tears shall never be known.