

The Berean Christadelphian

A monthly magazine devoted wholly to the exposition and defence of the Faith once for all delivered to the Saints, with the object of helping to make ready a People prepared for the coming of the Lord. Opposed to the unscriptural teachings of the papal and protestant churches of the world.

Edited and Published by:
G. A. Gibson, Apt. 607, 1501 Woodbine Ave., Toronto 13, Ont., Can.

“They received the Word with all readiness of mind, and searched the Scriptures daily, whether those things were so. Therefore many believed.”—Acts 17: 11.

CONTENTS

ECCLESIAL NEWS: Richard, Boston, Houston, Hye	Inside Front Cover
EDITORIAL: Some New Thing	321
SILENCE IN THE HEAVEN (Bro. Thomas)	324
VOYAGE TO AUSTRALIA (Bro. Roberts) Part 19	327
THE BIBLE AND ARCHEOLOGY	333
1969 Subscriptions	341
PERILOUS TIMES—AND THE LAST DAYS	342
CURRENT WORLD EVENTS Related to God's Purpose	345

We are anxious to send the Berean FREE to any desiring it that way. Please do not hesitate to request it. If you know of any who might like it, please send us their names.

CHRIST IS COMING SOON AND WILL REIGN ON EARTH

Ecclesial News

We plan, God willing, to list ecclesias in Jan., Apr., July & Oct. issues
PLEASE NOTIFY US OF ADDITIONS, CORRECTIONS OR CHANGES

RICHARD, Sask.—Mem. 10 am; S.S. 12 noon; Lec. last Sun. 8 pm; Class Fri. 8 p.m. Bro. Fred G. Jones, Rte. 1; Ph. Richard 6, ring 15.

GREETINGS to the brethren everywhere from your brethren at Richard!

Almost daily do we see signs of Christ's early coming, of which the Russian presence in the Mediterranean—getting ready to fulfil the role of Dan. 11:40-45—is not the least.

It appears certain that human rule cannot last much longer. What a blessing this is for mankind! Otherwise they would destroy themselves, and leave the world a shambles.

But God has decreed otherwise. Dan. 12:1 gives us hope, and as we see this day approaching we rejoice to see renewed interest in God's way of deliverance through belief of the Truth and baptism into Christ's Name.

We had the pleasant experience of helping MRS. STEPHEN PUNTER of Flaxcombe, Sask., to obey Christ, in baptizing her into the Faith, after her testimony of belief in God's Truth. The right hand of fellowship was extended on Oct. 20. We pray our sister will be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might and, as well, run the race with diligence.

We had as visitors: bro. & sis. Arthur Bennett (Lethbridge), and bro. John Randell (Portland), at which time our brethren ministered to our spiritual needs. These associations, coupled with some further interest in our area, cause us to rejoice, thank God, and take courage. —bro. Fred Jones

BOSTON, Mass. 02115—Hastings Hall, 320 Huntington; Phone (617) 536-7800—S.S. 10:30 am; Mem. 11:45 am; Lect. 2 pm 1st & 3rd Suns.; Bible Cl. Tues. night south of Boston, Wed. night north of Boston. Bro. Kenneth MacKellar, 86 Walnut, Reading, Mass. 01867» Phone (617) 944-9094.

WE have experienced the loss of 2 of our older members since the time of the Toronto Gathering. Bro. Robert Wilson fell asleep after a long confinement, on Oct. 15. He was baptized at London (South), England, in 1905, and has been with us in Boston since 1923.

Sis. Annie MacKellar died at age 93 on Oct. 20. She was baptized in Boston in 1890, being 78 years in the Master's work.

Both were regular attendants at all our meetings, and we pray they may be found acceptable, with God's mercy. —bro. Kenneth MacKellar

HOUSTON, Tex. 77012—8008 Junius St.—S.S. 10 am; Mem. 11 am; Public Lecture 3rd Sun 7:30 pm; Notes on the Apocalypse other Suns. 6 pm; Daily Reading Discussions Wed. 7 pm. Bro. C. Banta, 815 Boston, Deer Park, Tex. 76550, phone (713) 479-2568.

IT is with joy and thanksgiving to our Heavenly Father that we announce the examination and immersion of 2 of our Sunday School scholars. After a good confession of their Faith on the 8th, bro. & sis. DAVID CARROLL were baptized on Nov. 9, and received into fellowship on the 10th. David is the son of bro. & sis. Lonnie Carroll.

May the Father's blessing rest upon David and Georgia as they enter into the work and service of the Truth while waiting the soon return of our Lord!

What joy the Father has set before us—what comforting assurance of Faith, IF we give Him our ALL: all our mind, all our heart, all our strength! What an amazing bond it is—the "Truth as it is in Jesus"—an everlasting anchor to our souls, IF we are giving ourselves completely to its life-giving precepts!

Visitors around the table of the Lord have been: sis. LaRue Smith and sis. Ouida Landers (San Angelo); and sis. Jessie Hatcher and bro. & sis. Wayne Wolfe (Lampasas). —bro. Chas. Banta

HYE, Texas

THE Quarterly meeting was held Nov. 3 at Hye. 1 Tim. 3 was considered during the Sunday School period, bro. John Packer of the Houston ecclesia teaching the class.

We were comforted with words of exhortation by bro. Bill Muter of the San Angelo ecclesia, and bro. Gary Smith of that ecclesia presided.

All 4 Texas ecclesias were well represented: 54 brethren and sisters and 28 young people —82 in all. —bro. Chas. Banta

EDITORIAL

Some New Thing

"For all the Athenians and strangers which were there spent their time in nothing else but either to tell or hear some new thing"—Acts 17:21

IN Greenwood Cemetery, Brooklyn, New York, there stands a monument bearing the following inscription:—

Here lies, in brief repose, waiting the return of the Lord from heaven, JOHN THOMAS

Author of Elpis Israel, Eureka, Anastasis, Phanerosis and other works in which he demonstrated the unscriptural character of popular Christianity, and made manifest the nature of

THE LONG-LOST FAITH OF THE APOSTLES

During a busy lifetime, by mouth and pen, he contended earnestly for the Faith once delivered to the saints, and at his death left behind him as the result of his labours, a body of people in different parts of the world, known as CHRISTADELPHIANS to continue the work begun.

This is but a silent testimony to the wonderful man whose life-labor has changed the course of a great many men and women, and introduced them to a Hope that enlightens the intellect, and satisfies the heart.

But there is a far greater memorial extant; one that speaks intelligibly to people of all ranks—the product of his pen. His first great work was Elpis Israel, an exposition of the Kingdom of God. Although written over 100 years ago, this comprehensive and lucid work remains to this day the paramount exposition of the Scriptures.

The author's explicit description of Creation is of particular interest, in these days when worldly speculations are so rife.

His final and crowning work was Eureka, an exposition of the Apocalypse, a literary work that has no peer aside from the Bible on which the entire work is based. As one reads Eureka carefully and thoughtfully, he becomes fascinated as he beholds the unstaggering faith, and the amazing discernment that the author possessed in God's Word. If he be honest with himself, he will bow his head, and thank God for the man and his work, and confess that he owes his knowledge of the Truth to John Thomas.

Eureka has stood the test of one hundred years, and we believe it provides a master key that has opened the treasure house of the Apocalypse, and made the signs and symbols easy to be understood.

We go back to the monument, and look again at the words;

"A body of people, in different parts of the world, known as CHRISTADELPHIANS, to continue the work begun."

From that time on until the death of bro. Roberts, the work did continue under his strict supervision. But during that quarter of a century, the critics were busy, and brethren arose, "speaking perverse things, to draw away disciples after them."

But bro. Roberts stood firm, and when he died in 1898, just 70 years ago, the body was in good condition.

The exposition of the Apocalypse as set forth in Eureka is based upon the principle that the symbols represent a preview of history from the days of John to the establishment of the Kingdom of God. The events that have taken place from the time of the revelation up to the time of the writing of Eureka, when in juxtaposition with the symbols, reveals an orderly and progressive development under divine control.

Your editor's admiration of Eureka is best expressed in the words of bro. Roberts:—

"It is not only an elucidation of the Apocalyptic mysteries, but the collateral exposition of nearly all Scriptural truth and the harmonization of the Holy Oracles from Genesis to Revelation."

From a correspondent, we received a stimulating letter with respect to the signs of the times in which he said—

"How stirring the events are today! How wonderfully they fit in with what our beloved brother Thomas has taught us to expect! Where would we be, if God had not, in His loving providence, provided such a devoted, dedicated student to point out these things?"

We too, are genuinely grateful for his indefatigable labor of love, and thank God daily for it. But all do not hold this view, for many would like to brush Eureka aside and replace it with a different exposition based on theories of their own.

There are at least six of these in circulation today which seem to follow a common pattern, having no relation to history, but applying to the present and future, as the Catholic Church always has interpreted it to avoid its obvious identification of their evil system. Here is a paragraph from bro. Roberts—

"Eureka is a breeze of truth that comes from the high hills of prophetic vision upon the nearly-stagnant atmosphere of the plains of ignorance below, blowing away the sultry vapours and dispersing incipient disease. It is a temple of light, resplendent with the hues of precious stones, in the courts of which those who love the Light and the Truth will often be found."

In Acts 8, there is a record of deep interest for every one of us. An eunuch of great authority who had charge of the treasure of the queen of Ethiopia was reading from the prophecy of Isaiah, when Philip came to him and asked him if he understood what he was reading.

His answer was, "How can I, except some man guide me?"

That was our position when first introduced to the Truth, and we soon learned that we were particularly favoured, for we have two men who have been proven to be capable and faithful guides—John Thomas and Robert Roberts.

The heritage these two brethren left us is too precious to be ignored. If it is our desire to obtain a good understanding of the Scriptures, and eventually attain unto salvation, then we should read what they have written for us.

Of course, the Bible must come first, but there are so many things in it that are hard to be understood, we must depend upon guidance. We have that especially in Elpis Israel and Eureka.

In addition to that there is a book we all should read, and that is "Dr. Thomas, his Life and Work," by bro. Roberts. That will help us to know and understand the Truth more fully, and we would appreciate to a far greater extent the wonderful heritage that is ours.

Later on, we hope to have more to say about the works of bro. Roberts, but in the meantime, let us observe carefully what Paul said to Timothy—

"Give attendance to reading, to exhortation, to doctrine . . . Meditate upon these things: give thyself WHOLLY to them"—1 Tim. 4:13-15.

"Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing (handling) the Word of Truth"—2 Tim. 2:15.

Silence in the Heaven

"And when he had opened the 7th Seal, there was silence in heaven about the space of half an hour"

—Revelation 8:1

By **BROTHER JOHN THOMAS**

JOHN was informed that the opening of the 7th Seal would be marked by silence coming into existence in the heaven. This implies that before the opening of the 7th Seal there was the absence of silence; in other words, that there was noise or tumult in the heaven.

The uproar must have been very great, from the fact that the silence ensuing was deemed worthy of prophetic annunciation.

When we are reminded of the events of the 6th Seal, there is no difficulty in conceiving the nature of the uproar. The "Great Red Dragon" of paganism was then in the heaven, and the Michael-Power also.

These were 2 antagonist forces which could not dwell together in unity. So war broke out between them, and they contended for the throne of Deity in the heaven: so (Rev. 12:7):

"There was war in the heaven: Michael and his angels fought against the Dragon;

"And the Dragon fought, and his angels, and prevailed not: neither was place found for them still in the heaven."

This expulsion of the Pagan Dragon-Power from the heaven left the Michael-Power sole occupant of the throne in the heaven; so that the final victory over the Dragon-Power placed the Michael-Chieftain (who was the newborn Son of the Woman) upon the apocalyptic throne of the Deity, to which he had been "caught up" by a career of conquest during 18 years in which he never lost a battle.

Being, therefore, only one supreme power in the heaven, all uproar between powers in the heaven would necessarily cease, and "silence" ensue.

Hence, "silence in the heaven" was peace in the political aerial—the stillness and quietude of a calm after one storm, and before the outburst of another.

The "silence in the heaven," then, was a period of tranquillity in the region of government, extending from the end of the 6th Seal (signalized by the decisive battle of Chrysopolis, AD 324) and reaching to the "voices" which resulted from the "fire cast into the earth" by the Angel-Priest of the Apocalyptic Temple (v. 5).

Between these 2 epochs, his reign was undisturbed by rivals or usurpers, and he was enabled to bequeath to his own family the inheritance of the Roman world.

"The general peace," says Gibbon, "which he maintained during the last **fourteen years** of his reign, was a period of apparent splendour rather than of prosperity; and the old age of Constantine was disgraced by the opposite yet reconcilable vices of rapaciousness and prodigality."

Having no competitor to dispute his authority, he might have been the happiest of rulers but for the corrupting influence of prosperity, and the quarrels of the Arian and Trinitarian factions of his new religion. He condescended to beseech these ignorant fanatics not to disturb the "general tranquillity"

"The favor which I seek," said he, is that you examine the causes of division and bring the controversy to a close, and that you thus restore peace and unanimity among yourselves; so that I may

triumph with you over our enemy the Devil who excited this internal strife because he was provoked to see **our external enemies subdued and trampled upon beneath our feet**" (symbolized by the "moon under the Woman's feet").

While, then, there was silence in the government, there was uproar in the Church characterized by every evil work, which at length became the cause of the providentially retributive "voices, thunders, lightnings and earthquake" which preceded the preparation of the angels to whom the sounding of the 7 Trumpets was assigned (v. 6).

* * *

Tranquillity reigned in the newly-constituted government of the Roman Dragon "'about half an hour."

This is symbolic time, or time in miniature. The Apocalypse in general is a miniature representation of an original conception of Divine Wisdom which, when manifested in the accomplished facts, will vastly exceed in magnitude the terms in which it is expressed.

Hence, all its particulars partake of this general character, as parts partake of the nature of the whole. Thus, in respect of **number**, the 144,000 is a miniature representation of an undefined multitude vastly in excess of that square of 12,000.

And in respect of **person**, an angel represents a class of agents.

So also it is with **time**: the times of the Apocalypse are upon a miniature but proportionate scale, and suited to the nature of the subject in hand.

The longest period in the Apocalypse in reference to the affairs of the Saints is 1260. It is transferred from Dan. 7:25 & 12:7, where it is given in the formula "a time, times, and the dividing of time."

This formula is itself reproduced in Rev. 12:14 as representative of the period during which the Fugitive Woman was to be nourished in the 2 wings of the Great Eagle.

The question, "How should these "times" be expressed in figures?" is answered in v. 6 of this chapter (12), where the period of the nourishing or feeding is stated as 1260 days. This, therefore, gives us certainty that "a time, times, and the dividing of time" is a period equal to 1260.

This 1260 is a whole number constituting the numerical expression of the aion or cycle pertaining to the Saints in their hostile relations to the blasphemous power into whose hands they were to be given (Dan. 7:21-25; Rev. 13:6).

The shorter times of the Apocalypse are proportional parts of 1260, which is itself ½ of 2520, or SEVEN TIMES, allotted to the "Kingdom of Men," styled by Paul, the "Powers that be."

Between these and the Saints in Christ Jesus, there was to be war. The Saints were to be overcome till their aion expired, and then they are to conquer. And their conquest will be complete when the aion of the "Powers that be," the 2520, shall be full (Dan. 4:16-23).

The Apocalypse has to do with the 2nd half of the 2520. The **former** half in the first 6½ centuries of it pertained to Israel according to the flesh exclusively; and in its last 6 centuries to the faithful in Christ in their conflict with paganism and Catholicism before the legal and constituted establishment of POPERY.

The 2nd, or latter, half of the 2520 is the aion of the Saints running parallel with popery, and terminating with the manifestation era of the Ancient of Days (Time of the End) which ends with the end of the 2520.

But—what are these "Seven Times" of 2520? Are they so many literal days of 24 hours each? Or literal years? When we consider the subject of which the 2520 is the aion, or cycle, we shall see that it can only be a cycle of YEARS.

It is the Cycle of a Tree representing the loftiness and extension of the Kingdom of Men. This dominion existed in great glory, and was symbolized by the majesty of Babylon styled, in the days of Nebuchadnezzar, "the House of the Kingdom."

Nebuchadnezzar, being the reigning monarch, was the representative for the time then present of this Tree-Dominion, as was Cyrus after him, and Alexander the Great many years after Cyrus.

Over this Kingdom 2520 were to pass in the line of its gold, silver, brass, iron and clay dynastic constitutions.

What happened to Nebuchadnezzar was typical of what should happen to the Tree. He was hewn down from his loftiness, deprived of reason, and made to herd with the beasts for 2520 literal days, or Seven Times of days.

This was the sign, or type. And a sign, in its times, persons, actions, always represents something (analogous indeed) but **different from itself**.

According to the sign, then, so it was to come over the Kingdom of Men—at that time overshadowing the nations to the end of the earth, like a tree whose height reached to heaven and the sight thereof to all the earth. Its loftiness was to be hewn down, as it was by Cyrus.

But it was not then to be uprooted. The stump of its roots was to continue in the earth, banded with iron and brass, and 2520 was to pass over it.

Now, the Kingdom of Men undeniably exists in our time, and has continuously existed from the days of Nebuchadnezzar. It is now the stump banded with a Greco-Latin band, and will continue so banded until it shall have been completely eradicated by Christ and the Saints at the end of 2520.

The reader will perceive, then, that the Kingdom of Men being the subject to be passed over by the 2520, the limitation of this period to literal days is out of the question. It can only signify 2520 **years**. And this being so, the 1260 of the Apocalypse, being the latter half of it, must be years also.

But this apocalyptic aion of 1260 years is expressed in **months** as well as **days**. Divided by 30 (the number of units in 1/12 of a time), the product is 42. These, in Rev. 11:2 & 13:5, are termed "42 months," during which the Saints, or Holy City, are trodden under foot by the Gentiles of the unmeasured court who are symbolized, in their civil and ecclesiastical constitution, by the Beast of the Sea and his Mouth of Blasphemy.

By this example, we learn that a symbolic month is equal to 30 years.

Now a moon or month is 1/12 of a cycle. If the cycle be of 360 **days**, it will be 30 days. But if the cycle be of 360 years, then the month will be 30 years.

"Month" is used 6 times in the prophecy, twice in the singular. Except in Rev. 22:2, it always stands for 30 years, or 1/12 of a time.

Being then the 1/12 of a cycle, it is also the "Hour" of that cycle. The small cycle of light called a "day," which is the root of all the greater cycles, was divided by the Jews into 12 equal parts, and the night into other 12. Their division, which is the scriptural one, makes a month and an hour representative of 1/12s of a whole to be determined by the subject treated of.

In Rev. 9:15 there is a notable proportional use of a symbolic **hour**, day, **month**, and year. Here "hour" is proportional of day, and "month" similarly proportional of year.

The nature of the subject excludes the idea of "day" signifying a day, and "year" signifying 365 days, or a year, beside the fact that symbolic time, which is time in miniature, always represents time longer than itself.

Here in Rev. 9, "day" stands for year, and "year" for a term of years; so that the "hour" is the 1/12 of the "day," or 30 days; and the "month" is the 1/12 of the "year" or time of years, and therefore equal to 30 years.

This is the only place in the Apocalypse where "hour" stands for 30 days. It occurs in 7 other places after this, but in all these it stands alone and represents a judicial period of **thirty years**, of 1/12 of a time.

But, in Rev. 8:1, are we to understand the half-hour as 15 **days**, or 15 **years**, or as the literalist theory of 30 **minutes**?

The literalist notion is too ridiculous for a serious refutation. And a silence of 15 **days** would be no novelty or new thing to predict, for during the uproarious period of the 6th Seal there were many "15 days" of silence.

But there was no "silence in the heaven as it were 15 years." This was peculiar to the opening of the 7th Seal.

We conclude, then, that the half-hour in the text (and it is the only half-hour specified in the New Testament) is a period of 15 years.

The silence continued "about" that time. It may have fallen a little short. If it had been written in the text, "Silence ensued half an hour," then we should have expected to find that it continued **exactly** 15 years. But the insertion of "about" leads us to expect the probability of the silence not being prolonged the full measure of ½ an hour.

What, then, is the historical testimony in the case? It is that the decisive battle that ejected the "Great Red Dragon" out of the heaven (in which he had been carrying on war against the Michael-Power) was fought at Scutari AD 324.

"By this victory of Constantine," says Gibbon, "the Roman world was again united under the authority of 1 emperor, 37 years after Diocletian had divided his power and provinces with his associate Maximin."

Constantine reigned after this battle until AD 337, in which he died on May 22. This gives a little over 13 years to his death. But to these 13 years there are 4 months to be added, as the silence continued that long after the emperor's death.

It may therefore be said that the silence was unbroken for nearly 14 years. As I have already quoted, Gibbon characterizes the last "14 years" of Constantine's reign as peaceful. "The general peace," says he, "which he maintained during the last 14 yrs. of his reign."

The "silence in the heaven" fell short of the full half hour by some months. It was therefore as the text declares, not exactly, but 'about' ½ an hour.

Voyage to Australia

By BROTHER ROBERT ROBERTS

"In journeyings often . . . in perils in the sea . . . weariness and painfulness . . . in watchings often."

PART NINETEEN

THE same evening (Dec. 17) we went to the Rockhampton wharf, from which the tender was to convey us 30 miles down the river to the steamboat "Arawatta" which was due to call at the mouth of the river "early in the morning."

The brethren accompanied us to the riverside. Many passengers with their many friends crowded the deck of the small craft. At 9, the bell rang all friends ashore.

Bro. Gardner and I then bade adieu to the brethren with mutual regrets, softened by the reflection that in the very worst twist of affairs we were bound to meet again shortly.

The vessel then started down the river in the dark. We observed with some alarm that we were yoked sideways to a barge of sheep, as in coming up. We had hoped to get down to the mouth of the river by 1 in the morning. We had now to resign ourselves to the certainty that we could not get there before 4—which meant 7 hours in a crowded boat in the dark, and no sleeping accommodation.

There were 8 sleeping berths below, but there were about 50 on board, and what chance was there among such a number of claimants without an amount of rude self-assertion for which the Truth utterly disqualifies?

Bro. Gardner went to the steward, and I could hear him appealing to his kindness for "an old gentleman who was rather unwell." The steward said he would do his best, but that, as the night wore on, was nothing.

Being described as "an old gentleman" was violent suggestive of thoughts. How insensibly we make progress in life's descending way!

We know we are getting on, yet we retain the feeling of our early start until we are made to realize, now and again, in the light in which "others see us," that we are not what we were or what we feel, but are changing from the freshness of "life's gay morn" to the sure and certain decay awaiting and besetting all mortal life.

This would be all very sad, were it not for the new vistas of life that open before us in the open door of the Gospel. The comfort which this brings is an invigorating medicine for all sorrows, and the pledge of everlasting youth in the day that changes—

"The oil of joy for mourning, and the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness."

There was nothing for it but to doze on a hard bench, while the tender with her heavily-laden consort puffed and jogged down the river. Seven weary hours thus passed away.

* * *

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 18, 1895

WE found ourselves at last at the mouth of the river at 4 a.m., and by the side of the Arawatta, which arrived from the north about the same time. But we were wrong in thinking our miseries were now over.

Bro. Gardner had laid a nice little plan, by which he was to end all discomforts in a twinkling. He was to board the Arawatta as soon as the tender was alongside, see the head-steward, and arrange for a sleeping cabin, in the way that he knew how. I was to remain where I was on the tender with the luggage till he should come for me and triumphantly convey me to a place of comfort and repose.

The first part of the plan he successfully executed. He was up the gangway quickly, followed by all the people on the tender; and I calmly waited in a dark corner, as agreed.

Then the officials shouted, "Are all aboard?" It was in the dark, and they could not see.

I took no notice. Then an officer came peering around with a lantern, and finding me, asked if I was not going aboard.

I said, "Yes, but I am waiting for a friend who is coming for me."

"Oh," said he, "you cannot wait here. They are going to take down the gangway, and you must get aboard."

I, in vain, suggested that my friend would be here very soon. The officer fairly hustled me out of my corner. It would not have mattered if I had not been cumbered with valises and bundles, or if I could have seen my way. The officer seized 1 or 2 of my things and asked me to follow him—which I felt obliged to do in the fear of being left behind, for in the fuss they were making it seemed as if the tender was about to return instanter.

I took as many of the parcels as I could carry, leaving the 2 largest behind, and followed the officer. I found myself presently on a narrow plank, crossing in mid-air from the poop-deck to foredeck, over the hold.

I might have managed to "walk the plank," but the tender was rocky with the motion of the water, and having bundles in my hand, and darkness at my feet, and the glare of the officer's lantern in my eyes in front, I was in great danger of being pitched head-foremost into the chaos below.

The men saw my difficulty and clutched me over the abyss with my things, and pushed me up the gangway. They then unshipped the gangway; and here I was on board with my 2 principal items of luggage on the tender, which I supposed was going off. I did not know where Bro. Gardner was. Our plan had, in fact, landed us in a little extra misery.

The Arawatta was crowded with Christmas people, going to Brisbane and Sydney. By-and-by bro. Gardner turned up, disconsolately. Could we have a sleeping cabin? No, not till a few people who were going ashore at Rockhampton had left.

When would that be? Eight o'clock. It was now 4.

What about the tender? Oh, it would be all right; the tender was not going just yet.

No, indeed! She stayed there for 8 weary hours, delivering cargo into the Arawatta, and then taking cargo off the Arawatta for Rockhampton. When the light came, my valises were found and brought aboard.

Meanwhile, in the wretchedness caused by dozing, heat, and fatigue, we had to sit on a side seat for several hours. At last, at 8 o'clock, we were shown into a cabin and so permitted, for a season, to end our woes. At 12:30 we set sail for Sydney, via Brisbane.

When I had settled down in my berth, I was deprived of it at the last moment in favor of someone who knew better how to get on the mercenary side of the officials. I had to sleep on a hard lounge, or rather try to sleep: for between a hard bed, and a hot atmosphere causing profuse perspiration, and the liability to roll off my shelf, I don't think I slept any.

* * *

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 19, 1895

GOT up early to end my misery. While having a hasty rubdown with a dry towel, the steward put in his head at the door and said, "What are you washing there for? Why can't you go to the bath?"

The challenge was so unreasonable that I remained silent. If I had spoken, I might have said I was not washing, but drying; and that if I had gone to the bath, I could not have got in among the waiting crowd.

I finished my wretched toilet and got on deck, and plunged my soul in the consolation of a Spirit bath—always within reach since the publication of a small Bible allowed it to be carried on the person.

In about 30 hours from starting we sailed into Brisbane, where we learned the boat would stay 2 days before going on to Sydney.

Bro. Antony was waiting on the wharf, and came aboard to welcome us ashore. He conveyed us to the house of bro. Yardley, whose daughter Florence was to go in the same steamer with us to Sydney, and whose roof was a great relief from ship discomforts.

* * *

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 20, 1895

BRO. Gardner ill, and requiring to be doctored. Afraid he won't be able to continue his journey.

In the evening, I accompanied bro. Antony through a heavy thunderstorm to a place 13 miles distant by rail, to witness the Christmas "break-up" of a school at which his sister was a pupil.

The pupils were dressed in white and their drawing-work was displayed on the walls. A number of the more proficient of the pupils were also on the platform, from which they gave sample performances on the piano and violin, and also in the reciting of pieces.

It was all very nice if only on the right foundation, which I painfully knew it was not.

Education that does not embrace the fear of God and the knowledge of His will and glorious purpose, as disclosed in the Covenants of Promise, leaves the chief department of human character undeveloped, and produces the shallow, sharp, veneered chatterers and joke-crackers with which we are abundantly familiar. The result is abortive.

I saw in the published report of one of these "break-ups" that some of the speakers were actually bewailing the effects of education, and expressing the conviction that the people used to be better without education, and that they might have to try the effects of ignorance once more. The school system, said they, was developing a race of smart bouncers who despised useful work and filled the street corners with voluble loafers and scornful sottish larrikins, who neither feared God nor regarded man.

I could not help agreeing with these critics. The cure, however, does not lie in the abolition of education, but in its adaptation to the whole nature of man. This mere cultivation of the intellectual faculties, under the stress of competition, is liable to produce clever ambitionists without character.

There is a remedy at the door in the shape of a government that will not gingerly handle the Bible as a thing tolerated in a modest corner, but will force it into the forefront of public life, with power behind it to suppress criticism and crush opposition with an iron hand, that will not brook a moment's contradiction of wisdom. Ready with love to bless submission, it will make short work with rebels in the day when the Law goes forth from Zion, and the Word of the Lord from Jerusalem.

* * *

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 21, 1895

BRO. Gardner better, and able to proceed.

The vessel started at 10 am, and was quickly out of Brisbane river into the open, where a breeze was blowing and the sea beginning to rise. The company on board was numerous, well-dressed, healthful and gay. Busy talk and merry laughter gave vent to the pleasant feelings excited by release from toil and the prospect of holiday joys and friendly reunion.

This was while we were in the smooth water of the river. When we got outside a change gradually came on. Quietness set in. Quietness settled into sobriety: sobriety deepened into solemnity: then a gradual thinning of the ranks.

Many went below, and many—by-and-by—were to be seen sprawling either on deck or in the passages in every attitude of misery or despair. (What a striking lesson on the pitiful impotence of proud man!—Ed.)

As the day passed, the weather became worse, until it amounted to a dangerous storm (from which came shipwrecks elsewhere, as we learned from the papers afterwards).

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22, 1895

THE storm raged all day. The ship pitched and rocked badly; it was scarcely possible to keep a footing anywhere. To make matters worse, the propeller was lifted out of the water at every pitch of the vessel, and shook the vessel by the severe vibration of its liberated action. It often seemed as if the ship must be torn asunder.

There was not only a rearing wind, but fierce thunders peals and vivid lightning flashes, and pouring rain. As one looked across the face of the deep, it was a wide chaos of heaving, writhing, foaming waters.

My 2 companions (bro. Gardner and sis. Yardley) were both confined to their cabins, so that we could not break bread.

In the pouring rain it was not comfortable to be on deck, notwithstanding the ample spread of a thick canvas awning. The passages were obstructed by prostrate forms. One could not go about among them without danger of stumbling over them, or being sent severely into their midst by a sudden roll of the vessel. I spent most of the time writing at the saloon table.

At night the force of the storm was terrible. At one time the ship reeled over on one side, and stayed there a bit. Enough of that would have given us escape, via the bottom. But she recovered herself and renewed her struggle with the elements.

* * *

MONDAY, DECEMBER 23, 1895

THE weather a little moderated. We reached Sydney harbour at 12:30, in the midst of fog and rain. We ought to have arrived 12 hours sooner: the storm had delayed us. Bre. Jackson and Bell were waiting for us and soon had us in the snug protection of the desired haven. Found letters waiting from home, having the "odor of a sweet smell," yet containing some tidings of a discomfiting character.

Such is life at present—all patchwork: sunshine and shadow—with most of shadow.

To this, outside the Gospel, there is no explanation, and no relief. Inside, there is such completeness of light that we can easily "bear all things"—at least, more easily than when men's minds are only fronted with black nature.

* * *

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24, 1895

THE weather improved: air cool and bright: rain gone. After writing, took train into Sydney for the afternoon. Got home and found bre. Bell & Jackson waiting with much to talk about.

* * *

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 25, 1895

HAVING devoted the first part of the day to writing, I joined bro. Bell and sis. Wilson in a sail up the harbour to Maharatta. The sail was enjoyable—from 2 causes extra to the natural attraction of water, land, and sky: the conversation of highly-intelligent companions and the reading of extraordinary good news from the East. Things seem to be maturing at last for the finish upon which our hearts have been set for so many weary, waiting years.

On landing at Maharatta we went to an ample public park and rested, with much pleasant talk, by the side of a river. We returned to Sydney by train.

* * *

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 26, 1895

WENT to Fairfield, 16 miles from Sydney, to spend 2 days with bro. & sis. Barton and their most interesting family circle. They live in the midst of a forest clearing, but the house stands on such rising ground that it commands a wide view over the treetops on all sides. Bro. Killop, to whom one of the daughters is married, lives near.

There was a pleasant little muster in the afternoon, comprising bro. & sis. Colburn, sis. Wood, bro. Killop, bro. Gardner, and bro. Barton's family. The Truth is a great reality and a supreme interest with the whole family circle—the boys as yet excepted.

There was much enjoyable intercourse in the open air on spiritual things. After supper we had some further pleasant talk and interesting readings from Eureka, closing with a prayer before parting.

* * *

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 27, 1895

GAVE the morning to letter-writing and returned to Sydney in the afternoon. Was startled to find on the railway bookstall a certain English publication concerning which I have had more questions than one. (He is speaking of "England's Ruin," which he had published anonymously in answer to Rbt. Blatchford's "Merrie England," a blueprint for a Socialist man-made Millennium—Ed).

* * *

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 28, 1895

WET day: spent in writing.

* * *

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 29, 1895

LARGE and pleasant meeting at the breaking of bread. Spoke on the bearing of the Apocalyptic chapters read (17 & 18)—which were political, spiritual, and practical. Met bro. H. Gordon for the first time, of whom I had heard many encouraging things. He is at present settled in Western Australia, and had come 1,500 miles to be present. In the evening lectured to a large and attentive audience on Christ's first & 2nd appearances.

* * *

MONDAY, DECEMBER 30, 1895

TO Manly Beach, at the bottom end of the harbour, in the morning. In the evening to a festive meeting of the Sunday School, where I was called upon to make a speech and distribute the prizes. Several of the children recited poetical scriptural pieces very nicely.

At the close, I had proofs handed to me of the tract (extracted from my Diary) which the brethren had decided to present in neutralization of the false account Mr. Cornish was circulating of my meeting with him; also a copy of his scandalous pamphlet, noticed earlier in the Diary. The very title is an absurdity. But there are times when reason is as powerless as a whisper in the wind.

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TUESDAY, DECEMBER 31, 1895

VARIOUS interviews, arrangements, and writings.

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WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 1, 1896

THREATENING aspect of foreign affairs, and conversation on the possibility of my being stopped at the Antipodes by the outbreak of war between England and America and the other Powers. I would rather stay in Australia or New Zealand than be kidnapped by a cruiser and sent prisoner to a French or American jail. Writing, rest, walk, interviews, consultations.

* * *

THURSDAY, JANUARY 2, 1896

THE day of my departure for New Zealand. Attended to various matters, literary and otherwise, in the forepart of the day. In the afternoon went to the New Zealand steamboat. Many of the brethren and sisters were present. I should have been sorry to part with them, had there not been a prospect of my return in 3 months.

Thus it is in a larger sense in the Truth with all our partings. There is always a beyond, not only of re-union but of unspeakable goodness in friendship and every other good thing. Still it was painful to depart. The narrator of Paul's travels says, on leaving Melita—

"They laded us with such things as were necessary."

I went aboard the "Rotomahana" with an absurd armful of parcels which I appreciated for the love it meant, though scarcely knowing at the time what to do with them.

At about 6 p.m. the steamer drew off from the wharf and slowly dropped down the harbour among mutual handkerchief wavings on board and ashore. Before we got down to the heads we were in rough water, and when we got outside we were at once in a storm which dispersed the people to their staterooms. I managed to do some writing.

People at home think of New Zealand as next-door to Australia, and imagine a voyage between them as not much more than a sail across a big ferry. In actual fact, it is a 1,000 miles across a stormy sea. It takes 4 full days, not always stormy but rather liable to be so from the up-coming long roll of the Southern Ocean.

* * *

FRIDAY, JANUARY 3, 1896

GREAT swell on the water. Filled the day with writing and reading—Bible, Daily News, and Gibbon.

* * *

SATURDAY, JANUARY 4, 1896

HEAVY sea all day, increasing towards evening. People nearly all sick. The motion of the vessel very violent—a side and forward pitch combined, on account of the great waves being parallel to the course of the vessel. Walking scarcely possible; managed to put in a little writing. Reading, of course.

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SUNDAY, JANUARY 5, 1896

WIND moderated, but sea rougher.

* * *

MONDAY, JANUARY 6, 1896

WIND fallen, but sea high. Vessel still rolling exceedingly. A large albatross, with golden bill and dark wings, perched on the top of the stern flagstaff, his breast and body white as snow. He was a beautiful object in the added glory of sunlight, shining on his snow-white plumage.

I could not help thinking how beautiful are the works of God in the relations for which He has adapted them. The bird looked almost an angelic figure in the spotless purity and free-soaring graceful strength of life on the sea.

But let some barbarian level a gun at him, and you have only a mass of flesh soon putrid, and feathers that will lose their beauty and moving force.

The creature stood there a long time. His beauty and strength and gladness inevitably tempted my thoughts to the recollection of higher and purer forms of life which have been many times seen on earth already, and will be seen more numerous in days to come, when he dwells on earth whose countenance is as the lightning and his raiment white as snow: and who will be attended by a multitude of the heavenly host, and surrounded by a body of brethren conformed to the image of his glory.

This, of course, seems foolishness to the passengers of a modern steamship, with her stoke-hole, her smoke, and her tons of ashes thrown overboard. But it is none the less the assured prospect opened up in the "Words of truth and soberness."

Everything has its place. The nobleman's stables and dung-heaps do not exclude his plate and his jewellery. God has jewels He has not yet shown us, except in sample, for faith. We are "lying in the cattle pens" for the time: but our "wings shall be as silver, and our feathers as yellow gold."

(Continued next month, God Willing)

The Bible and Archaeology

"All flesh is grass, and the goodness thereof as the flower of the field. The grass withereth, the flower fadeth, but the Word of God shall stand forever."

OUR subject appears to be a combination of the dead and dying. Archaeology concerns itself with the past, while the Bible has been put into a position where belief in it is dwindling to a point of no return.

And yet, our subject has a definite connection with the present, and even with the future—for we will learn that the past is not as dead as some would have us believe, nor is its influence and usefulness over. In this regard, some might say:

"How foolish! Of course the past is over! The world has progressed with each generation until we have reached our present high standard of civilization."

At first glance, this appears to be the case. But if we look backwards into the past, we find that there were mighty empires with high cultures long before the Romans brought civilization to the British barbarians. Many of these empires produced buildings and engineering feats that are still numbered among the wonders of the world.

This thought was expressed by Mr. M. V. Jack in an article entitled "The World's Heritage." Written in 1955, it pointed out that the progress of the world resembles a garden that has been planted to give flowers the year round. He tells us:

"Now here, and now there, a race emerges from barbarism, learns the arts of civilization, and develops its own peculiar culture. What that culture is to be depends, as with the plant, on the climate and soil—or the natural advantages and disadvantages of its situation—but most of all on the native genius of the race."

Now while we agree that culture has broken out and blossomed in various ages in different nations we cannot agree that mankind has come to his present state as the result of his own genius.

The movements of the nations are controlled according to a pre-set Divine plan that unfolds slowly as various stages are reached.

Some times this requires the removal of men and nations from the scene when they have fulfilled their part in the plan. The majority of mankind is unaware of this purpose, but here and there are some who understand it.

Where do we turn to find this information? Sir Charles Marston, a well-known archaeologist, supplies the answer when he says "Archaeology is the science of man, and points out:

"The Bible is our textbook of the science of man. It is our authority for moral and spiritual development. Whether we like it or whether we do not, on what other authority can we rely?"

"Even if a man assumes his reason to be his sole authority, nevertheless he has to recognize the 'moral law,' and the moral law rests on the authority of the Bible.

"Or, one may regard his church as an authority—but behind its teaching is a background from the Bible. And as for the authority of science, its present urgent call for the study of the science of man is pointing directly to the Bible.

"Whichever way we look, therefore, the Bible becomes of supreme importance—unless we turn our backs on the realities of life, and drift to disaster."

This conviction was clearly held by Dr. Gratton Guinness, who said—

"The Bible is the chart of history. It affords a panoramic view of the whole course of events from the Creation and the fall of man, to the final judgment and the inauguration of the New Heavens and the New Earth.

"It gives us, not events only, but their moral character, tracing the motives of the various actors in the drama, as well as the results of their actions. Events are shown in relation to their causes and their effects, and the judgment of God as to their character is revealed.

"Without the Bible, history would be a spectacle of unknown seas. But under its guidance we can trace the complex currents to their springs, and see the end from the beginning."

THESE men agree that the Bible is our authority on the matter of history, and that it is the ONLY place where we can find the true answer to the science of man.

What then is the Bible? It has been described as "The Book of Books," and has been translated into 1120 languages and dialects. Actually, it is a collection of 66 books, divided into 2 main sections, the Old and New Testaments.

A good definition of it is outlined in the "Confession of the Assembly of Westminster," published in 1647—

"The Old and New Testaments, being immediately inspired by God, are authentic. The Church is finally to appeal to them. The Holy Spirit is speaking in all Scriptures. The Bible is a Book which has God for its Author, Salvation for its subject, and Truth without any mixture of error for its matter."

This strong statement is based upon the Bible, and correctly represents the teaching of Christ and his apostles. As we turn to study the Bible, let us remember that it was written for all ages and all times:—

That its message is as true and dependable TODAY as in the ages during which it was written.

This is evident from the words of the apostle Paul—

"Whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the Scriptures might have hope" (Rom. 15:4).

Paul also points out their reliability in 2 Tim. 3:15-16—

"ALL Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, reproof, correction, instruction in righteousness.

"That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works."

Peter had the same conviction, as we learn from his 2nd epistle, 1:19-21 —

"We have also a more sure Word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn and the Day Star arise on your hearts;

"Knowing this first, that no prophecy of Scripture is of any private interpretation.

"For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man, but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Spirit."

Another quotation regarding God's authorship of the Bible is Heb. 1:1-2. Paul says—

"God, Who at sundry times and in diverse manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets,

"Hath in these last days spoken unto us by His Son."

Since Jesus Christ was the Son of God, **his word is final**. His endorsement of the Scriptures is seen throughout the Gospel records in phrases such as, "It is written"; "Have ye never read?" and "Search the Scriptures." In Luke 16:17, Jesus tells us—

"It is easier for heaven and earth to pass, than one tittle of the Law to fail."

Thus we learn that "The Word of the Lord endureth forever" (1 Peter 1:25)—and is certain of fulfilment.

* * *

HAVING learned that the Bible is reliable, let us now turn our attention to archaeology. As earlier stated, this is the science of man, particularly of ancient man and his customs.

Since the early part of the 19th century, scientists have been seriously digging the earth in various regions in an attempt to uncover man's historical beginnings. Due to climatic condition, very little success is met in Europe. But a great deal has been done in Asia Minor, Egypt, and Mideast.

Their interest in these areas arises from the Bible, ancient history, and folklore. Expeditions have been formed by Americans, British, French and German scholars. They choose one particular site; then, armed with all the history they can learn of the surrounding district, begin to dig; first in trenches, then in reinforced shafts. As they go down, they find remnants of remote civilizations.

These remains are usually found undisturbed, because ancient builders did not clear away the ruins of their overthrown cities—they simply levelled them off and built anew on the top. So the mounds that mark the sites of old cities are literally full of pottery, household utensils, chiselled stones (many printed and illustrated), and also ancient scrolls.

Items from various levels have been dated and documented, and archaeologists are now able to assign a date to each layer, and are often accurate to within a space of 25 to 50 years. Occasionally they find tombs that contain treasures and pottery in excellent condition—and these are also a storehouse of information.

Valuable items have found their way to the world's largest museums and are available for all to see. In some areas they have uncovered houses and town sites, so that the way of life in ancient times can be pieced together and revealed for the present generation.

While all this is of interest to us, the real importance of their discoveries lies in an entirely different direction.

Since 1872, when Darwin put forth his theories on evolution, the Bible has been discredited by scientists until it is no longer considered truthful or valuable. The first 11 chapters of Genesis are said to be "myths and Jewish folklore."

In this regard we would like to make 2 quotations from archaeologists. First, Sir Charles Marston, in his book "The Bible Comes Alive," remarks that—

"The earlier chapters of the book of Genesis have received an endorsement from science which, in course of time, will stabilize our outlook on the whole Bible."

Mr. Werner Keller is a journalist who wrote a book entitled "The Bible as History." He became interested in the reports of French archaeologists. He makes it clear that his interest in the Bible is only from an historical viewpoint (as the title of his book indicates), so we take the following comments at random from his preface—

"These breath-taking discoveries make it necessary for us to revise our views about the Bible. Many events that previously passed for pious tales must now be judged to be historical. . .

"The opinion has been, and still is, widely held that the Bible is nothing but the story of man's salvation. At the same time it is a book about things that actually happened. . .

"The events themselves are historical facts, and have been recorded with an accuracy that is nothing less than startling."

He concludes with this unusual statement—

"In view of the overwhelming mass of authentic and well-attested evidence now available, as I thought of the sceptical criticism which from the 18th century would fain have demolished the Bible altogether, there kept hammering in my brain this one sentence: "The Bible is right after all!"

KEEPING this thought in mind, let us refer to Gen. 11:27-31, where we read of a man named Terah and his sons, who lived in Ur of the Chaldees. The son we are interested in is Abram, who left this country at the command of God to become the father of a new nation in the land of Canaan, where his name was changed by God to Abraham.

In 1923 Sir Leonard Woolley began his excavations in a mound near the river Euphrates, and after 6 years he uncovered the ruins of Ur of the Chaldees, the city of Abraham. He declares—

"We must revise our ideas of the Hebrew patriarch when we learn that his early years were spent in such sophisticated surroundings. He was the citizen of a great city, and inherited the traditions of an ancient and highly-organized civilization."

Sir Leonard then proceeds to contend for the historical correctness of the Bible record by evidence from outside Scripture. All the attendant details of the Bible records have been amply confirmed by the discoveries at Ur, even to the name Abram, which is found in the Babylonian cuneiform contract tablets of that era.

* * *

LET us next notice the Creation records. They too have the testimony of archaeology in their favor. They are of great importance, because they affirm the fundamental principle of a personal God as the Creator of nature and its laws. Sir Charles Marston states that—

"Even from the comparatively small proportion of these relics of a remote past, the stories of the Creation, the Temptation and Fall of man, and the death of Abel, as described in Genesis, were then matters of current knowledge. They were taught in the schools of Ur of the Chaldees when Abraham dwelt there.

Another confirmation of the Genesis record is seen in the fact that Berosus the Chaldean historian (3rd century BC) says that there were 10 kings before the Flood, which agrees with the 10 patriarchs of Gen. 5. Also, a cuneiform clay prism in the Ashmolean Museum at Oxford, England, has the names of 8 of them. It was written in the year 2050 BC, during the lifetime of Abraham.

In this connection, Dr. Langdon, another archaeologist, says:

"The Babylonians and Assyrians believe that all revealed knowledge, and all true rules of conduct, had been preserved for them directly from the hands of the sages who lived before the Flood."

That Noah's Flood must have been a historical event has long been recognized by the few scholars who were familiar with the constant allusions to it in the cuneiform writings. Legends of a great flood exist all over the world.

Like much evidence that agrees with the Old Testament, efforts are made to explain them away. However, one record contains the name Nahmolel, corresponding in Hebrew to Noah.

It was also at Ur of the Chaldees in the winter of 1928-29 that Sir Leonard Woolley found the Flood deposits. In his attempts to find the earliest possible ruins beneath Ur, he sent his shafts down deeper. They uncovered the tombs of the Kings of Ur, and learned that they had been buried in layers for over 2 centuries.

Probing ever deeper, his workmen finally called out that they were "on ground level," when they hit a layer of clear clay. Since this clay was several yards higher than the river bank, and entirely different from the soil above it, it could not have been deposited by the river. So they went deeper, and found it to extend over 8 ft. deep, when it stopped as abruptly as it started.

Further digging showed that there were signs of civilization beneath this layer, but it was only a rubble of broken pottery. Woolley came to the conclusion that he "was among the ruins of that Ur which had existed before the Flood." He states—

"The bed of water-laid clay could only have been the result of a flood. No other agency could possibly account for it."

Further excavation throughout the Middle East reveal this same level of clay at the same level. He estimated the date as 2700 BC. Of this event Mr. Keller writes—

"Woolley and his associates had, through their tireless and patient efforts, made a discovery that shattered even the experts . . . vast, catastrophic inundation, resembling the Biblical Flood which had regularly been described by sceptics as either a fairy tale or a legend, not only HAD taken place, but was an event within the compass of history.

This Flood, recorded in Gen. 6 to 8, has been the object of much criticism. In a book entitled "Genesis Flood," Mr. Henry Morris and Mr John Whitcomb Jr. remark that—

"The authors feel that these critical reviewers have been most unfair. The very strong and detailed Biblical evidence for a recent Creation, the universal effects of the Curse, and the world-wide destructive effects of the Deluge, have evidently been neglected as inconsequential, as far as these reviewers are concerned.

"Of course, they cite opinions as to the effect that various interpretations are possible, but none ever deals with the actual Biblical evidence."

After the Flood, the earth was populated by the family of Noah. This is evident from Gen. 9:19—

"These are the 3 sons of Noah, and of them was the whole earth overspread."

Paul mentions this fact briefly in Acts 17. Starting at v. 24 for connection we read—

"God made the world and all things therein."

And in v 26 concludes—

"And hath made of one blood all nations of men to dwell on all the face of the earth."

With this the archaeologist agrees, for Marston states—

"When with our modern knowledge we endeavour to retrace the civilized races of the world to their origins, there appears to emerge 3 main divisions that have inhabited the earth for the last 6000 years, and they all appear to come originally from the Caucasus.

"No more satisfactory name has been found for the Western races than Japhetic (i.e., descendants of Japheth), while the Semites (descendants of Shem) are not in doubt. The descendants of Ham, of course, include those of Mizraim, the Egyptians to whose connection with the Caucasus reference has already been made."

Surely this testimony is proof of the statement in Gen. 8:4—

"And the ark rested in the 7th month, on the 17th day of the month, upon the mountains of Ararat."

There is no question that Mt. Ararat is on the border of Turkey and Russia, and is in the region of the Caucasus mountains. In Gen. 11 we are told of the building of the Tower of Babel and of the consequent scattering of all the people into different nations and languages. In v. 16 we note the name "Peleg." If we look back to Gen. 10:25 we learn—

"Unto Eber were born 2 sons: the name of the one was Peleg, for in his days was the earth divided."

In the Paris Museum there are clay tablets brought back from the excavations of Mari, made in 1933-39. This was the royal city in an empire in northern Mesopotamia. One tablet says that—

"Mari was the 10th city to be built after the Flood."

Other clay tablets, dealing with the reports of governors and district commissions of the Mari Empire, contain names familiar to Bible readers. Mr. Keller tells us that—

"One after another, a whole series of familiar-sounding names from Biblical history—names like Peleg, Serug, Nahor, Terah, and Haran— emerge as the names of cities in NW Mesopotamia, and are evidently named for Abraham's ancestors."

There is also evidence that Terah, father of Abraham, was a great soldier and commander of armies. It is clear from Gen. 11:31 that this area was well-known to Terah, for we read—

"Terah took Abram his son, and they went forth from Ur of the Chaldees; and came to Haran and dwelt there."

Thus we have evidence that these men and cities did exist, and that the incident of the Tower of Babel was remembered in the name "Peleg."

* * *

ANOTHER interesting testimony to the truth of the Scriptures is seen in the excavations of the city of Jericho. You will recall that this city was the first to be attacked by the Israelites as they entered

the land of Canaan. The record is found in Josh. 6. It was to be taken in a most unusual manner, as we learn from vs. 3-5:

"Ye shall compass the city, all ye men of war, and go round about the city once. Thus shalt thou do 6 days.

"And 7 priests shall bear before the ark 7 trumpets of rams' horns. And the 7th day ye shall compass the city 7 times and the priests shall blow with the trumpets.

"And it shall come to pass that when they make a long blast with the ram's horn, and when ye hear the sound of the trumpet, all the people shall shout with a great shout.

"And the wall of the city shall fall down flat, and the people shall ascend up every man straight before him."

When they had completed the city's capture, v. 24 tells us—

"They burnt the city with fire, and all that was therein:

"Only the silver, and gold, and vessels of brass and iron, they put into the treasury of the House of the Lord."

Yet, in the midst of this destruction, one house was to remain standing, that of Rahab the harlot, which was built "upon the wall," and from which she had let down the spies.

Prof. Garstang and Sir Charles Marston excavated this city in 1930 and found that Jericho had been encircled by 2 walls: an outer one that was 6 ft. thick and an inner one that was 12 ft. thick. Both were 30 ft. high, and houses had been built across them.

At the northwest corner, facing the Judean hills, stood a tower. This building, which is still standing to a considerable height, was not, therefore, overthrown with the walls. Indeed, it held them up in its immediate vicinity.

This point is important because it is clear from the narrative that, when the walls of Jericho fell, Rahab's house remained more or less intact.

The evidence of the excavations supports such a conclusion. The wall had been violently destroyed. Masses of it had fallen down the slope, and all the ruins within the walls had been destroyed by fire, the evidences of which were of unusual intensity.

Yet another proof of the truth of the Scriptures is seen in the fact that nothing but the gold and silver and metal articles had been removed; for in the rooms and store chambers of the city were found the scorched remains of foodstuffs: wheat, barley, lentils, dates, onions, olives, and pieces of dough. Despite the lapse of over 3300 years, these mute witnesses remain today to testify that though Jericho was burnt, it was not plundered.

Another important feature regarding Jericho is the curse placed on it by Joshua (v. 26):

"Cursed be the man before the Lord that riseth up and buildeth this city Jericho:

"He shall lay the foundation thereof in his firstborn, and in his youngest son shall he set up the gates of it."

The city was not rebuilt until the reign of Ahab, as we learn from 1 Kings. 16:34—

"In his days did Hiel the Bethelite build Jericho:

"He laid the foundation thereof in Abiram his firstborn, and set up the gates thereof in his youngest son Segub, according to the Word of the Lord which He spake by Joshua."

Though Jericho is mentioned occasionally in later Scriptures, it never regained prominence. After the death of Herod the Great, his palace was burnt and the town plundered.

When Archelaus decided to rebuild the city, he did so on a new site in the plain. He diverted water from a nearby village, and planted the area with palm trees, so that in the time of Christ Jericho was once again a "city of palms."

However, this new city was destroyed by Vespasian about 68 AD. Present day Jericho lies about 1½ miles from the ancient site, which is now excavated and protected by a barbed wire fence.

After studying these early incidents recorded in the Bible, and their verification by the archaeologists, we can truly agree with Mr. Keller when he says that—

"In Palestine, places and towns that are frequently mentioned in the Bible are being brought back once more into the light of day. They look exactly as the Bible describes them, and lie exactly where the Bible locates them. On ancient inscriptions and monuments scholars encounter more and more characters from Old and New Testaments."

* * *

There are many more discoveries that could be mentioned, but we have chosen to dwell on the events in the early chapters of Genesis, because "scientists" have ridiculed them to such an extent that even the churches are discarding them to the realm of myths.

Much more could have been said about Egypt and the amazing prophecies concerning it; as well as others about ancient Babylon, Nineveh, Tyre, Sidon, etc., but these must be left to another time.

* * *

THERE is just one other item we would like to mention: the discovery of the Dead Sea Scrolls between 1947 & 1952. These were found in caves at the Wadi Qumran, about 30 miles from Amman, the capital of Jordan.

In one cave, 600 scraps of leather and papyrus were found, and when these were carefully pieced together they were recognized as Hebrew transcriptions of Genesis, Exodus, Deuteronomy, and Judges.

A complete Hebrew papyrus dating from the 6th century BC has been discovered, but its contents are not yet known. After careful examination, another find of 38 scrolls produced the text of 19 books of the Old Testament.

There is also a complete scroll of the prophecy of Isaiah, of 17 sheets of leather sewn together into a length of almost 23 feet, and must be similar to the roll that was handed to Jesus in the synagogue in Nazareth. Mr. Keller says—

"This discovery means more than simply a scientific sensation. To estimate the importance of the Dead Sea Scrolls, it is necessary to remember that the oldest text of the Bible that we possess in the Hebrew language is the Masoretic Text which is the work of rabbinical scribes and dates from the 5th to 10th centuries of the Christian era.

"The chief sources of our versions of the Scriptures are the Septuagint, which is the Greek translation, and the Vulgate or Latin translation of Jerome in the 4th century. Our knowledge of the text of the Bible rested for a long time on nothing but these 2 translations and the very late Hebrew manuscript.

"But with the discovery of the Dead Sea Scroll of Isaiah we have a Hebrew text of the Bible which is 1000 years older. And the remarkable and wonderful fact is that this ancient scroll of Isaiah, just like the book of the prophet in any printed Bible in any language, has 66 chapters and agrees with our present-day text."

Our concluding remarks are taken from this prophecy of Isaiah, 46:9-13, where the prophet declares the infinite power, and wisdom, and foreknowledge of the Almighty Creator and Sustainer of heaven and earth—

"Remember the former things of old: for I am God, and there is none else. I am God, and there is none like Me:

"Declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times the things that are not yet done, saying, My counsel shall stand, and I will do all My pleasure.

"Calling a ravenous bird from the east, and a man that executeth My counsel from a far country. Yea, I have spoken it, I will also bring it to pass, I have purposed, I will also do it.
"Hearken unto me, ye stout-hearted, that are far from righteousness. I bring near My Righteousness; it shall not be far off. And My Salvation shall not tarry. And I will place salvation in Zion for Israel My glory."
—J.S.M.

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"God, who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, hath shined in our hearts, to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ"—2 Cor. 4:6.

Perilous Times—and the Last Days

SECOND TIMOTHY CHAPTER THREE

"This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come"—2 Timothy 3:1

SUCH are the apostle's words in his last recorded message to his "dearly beloved son" as his own death drew near and he was "about to be offered" (4:6)—to lay down his life in the service of his Master.

We are forced to ask the question, What were the "perilous times" to consist of? In vs. 2-5 we are told what this should be:

"For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy.

"Without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good.

"Heady, highminded, lovers of pleasure more than lovers of God.

"Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof."

Capping the whole of what — Paul wrote, we note, is this—

"Lovers of pleasure more than lovers of God."

Hence we are made to turn the searchlight of Truth on the kingdoms of men, as we realize that the first 5 vs. of this chapter comprise a thumb-index of this our present evil world. And let us be well assured of this, first of all we must remember, these words come under the category of—

"ALL Scripture given by inspiration of God" (v. 16).

—and are consequently an essential part of that help in the assurance of faith and instruction of the man of God unto all good works, that he may be "perfect" and complete.

The prophet Daniel speaks of the same "last day" or, in his words, "Time of the end," as—

"A time of trouble such as never was since there was a nation" (12:1).

This should make us doubly cautious and fearful of the deceptions and pitfalls of these last evil days of man's wilfulness and corruption, that we constantly apply ourselves to the Light of the Word to build strength and understanding, for we are all weak mortal flesh.

Of these same terrible but wonderful times just before his return to save mankind from self-destruction, Jesus says—

"Men's hearts failing them for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth:

And constant verification and emphasis of these words of Scripture comes to us in our newspapers and over the air daily—yea, almost hourly—of the things referred to by Daniel, Paul, and Jesus himself.

And our own monthly magazine gives us a concise rendering of these evil conditions, not in the words of our own brethren but directly from the magazines and newspapers of the world itself, telling us so distinctly that trouble, unrest and fear stalk the world to an ever-increasing degree and magnitude such as has never been approached since Adam left the gates of Eden.

The apostle says, at the conclusion of this summary (v. 5)—

"From such turn away."

He is speaking particularly of those with a "form of godliness but denying the power thereof"—that is, a formal presentation of divine things but with no comprehension or application of them as a living power of godliness.

Such, he says, "creep into houses" and lead captive certain who like themselves are only partially persuaded of the Truth and influenced by it. From such we must resolutely "TURN AWAY."

And how full of such is the world today, and how well the inspired Word describes them—

"Ever learning, and never able to come to the knowledge of the Truth" (v. 7).

Let us not be such: waverers, compromisers, self-confused and confusing others, blurring the edges for peace and popularity. Let us KNOW the Truth, and stand clearly for it, and keep the issues sharp and clear between light and darkness.

Christ encountered this class of whom Paul speaks, and so shall we. He speaks of them in Matt. 23 in very strong terms, as "hypocrites" and "blind."

Yet God's great desire is not that any should perish, but should come to a wholehearted knowledge and acceptance of the Truth which is found in the whole Scriptures, and which can make us wise unto life everlasting.

Paul too, in his first letter to Timothy (2:4) assures us that God desires all men to be saved by coming to a **knowledge of the Truth**.

Clearly this "knowledge of the Truth"—this clear distinction of Truth and Error, of Light and Darkness—is the great necessity and determining factor. There is the challenge, and to it we must all respond, if we would be saved.

In v. 8 we have an important incident brought to our notice which we believe is closely connected with what Paul has written in the previous verses, and which is in evidence today.

Here what we may term a line of demarcation is clearly drawn. Our attention is drawn to the experience of Moses in Egypt at the time of the deliverance of Israel.

The magicians, the "wise of the world" of that day, withstood Moses and sought to obscure the manifestation of the power of God, by their own worldly accomplishments. They resisted the Truth for which Moses stood, and which he proclaimed, and those who resist the Truth today are looked upon by the Spirit as being in the same category.

But the men who opposed Moses were allowed to go so far and no farther. God, for His Own wise purpose, permitted them to confuse Pharaoh and the people in connection with the first 2 plagues, but then He drew the line and we find that with the plague of lice the magicians were unable by their "enchantments" to do as they had done before.

And again with the boils breaking forth upon man and cattle, the magicians were themselves afflicted and unable even to stand before Moses.

"So far and no farther" is the mind of the Spirit, as in the past, so today. And so we are able, by the aid of the Truth and an observation of the ways of the world, to determine that the night is far spent and the day is at hand when we may expect the coming of the Lord.

Man today clearly knows not whither he goeth. All is conflict and confusion. In so many aspects, local, national and international, he is at his wits' end, increasingly plagued with growing problems and deeply divided by hatred and strife.

These things we perceive in the terrible and humanly hopeless picture presented to us in the Current Events portion of our monthly magazine.

We see human leaders rise and wane, as God sets them up and brings them down—starting with great hopes and bright promise of man-made Millenniums, but finding all their great plans shattered on the rocks of human selfishness.

Like the great empires of the past which have arisen and served their purpose according to the will and plan of God, so amid all the present confusion we see one power, the King of the North, steadily rising today toward the pinnacle of strength when, in evil and covetous league with the Man of Sin of the great ecclesiastical Apostasy, he will "think an evil thought" and stretch forth his hand to seize world dominion.

Each month as world events unfold according to the Divine program, we see Gog growing stronger and bolder—

"But they shall proceed no further,"
—says the apostle (v. 9). That is, no further than God decrees and His plan requires—

"Their folly shall be manifest unto all men, as theirs (the magicians') also was."

God will draw the line, as He did through Moses, and the folly of all who oppose Him or ignore Him will be exposed.

"But," continues Paul, in cheerful contrast to the bleak worldly picture, and in comfort to his son Timothy and equally so to us in these last days—

"Thou hast fully known my doctrine, manner of life, purpose, faith, longsuffering, charity, patience, persecutions, afflictions."

This is the godly, meaningful, purposeful life, the true reality in this dark world of emptiness and illusion.

If we stand with Paul, we stand on the Rock that cannot be moved, and we shall be found still standing when all present things have passed.

"All that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution."
—the apostle tells us (v. 12). We, like Paul and like Christ, must go through "much tribulation" to enter the Kingdom, as (v. 13)—

"Evil men and seducers wax worse and worse, deceiving and being deceived."

The world has always had its superstitions in opposition to the Truth and authority of God, and today is no exception with the monstrous delusion of Evolution that seeks to nullify the Word of

God. This is the principal form this "deception" of which Paul speaks takes today, and many have been "led astray."

But let us all the more strongly heed the exhortation (v. 14):

"But continue thou in the things which thou hast learned and has been assured of, knowing of whom thou hast learned them.

"And that from a child thou hast known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation."

Let us not be drawn away from the firm foundation that our faithful pioneer brethren have laid for us, in the mercy and goodness of God. The Truth does not change. The Scriptures do not change. The world is still the world, and the Apostasy is still the Apostasy, and the Narrow Way is still the Narrow Way that so few find and so many stray from.

And the chapter concludes with those glorious and powerful and comforting, unchanging words (vs. 16-17)—

"All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, reproof, correction, and instruction in righteousness.

That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works." —W. J. P.

Current World Events

MIDEAST: REDS UP, US DOWN

What can be done to save US power, influence & investments of billions in Mideast & Mediterranean? Or is it all too far gone? Already Mideast today is more on Russia's side than US's. Even in Israel, which leans heavily on US backing, US stature is diminished.

Egypt's far more deeply penetrated by Russians than is realized in US. At least 11,000 Soviet "advisers" stand with top Egyptians in every field, military & civil, reaching deep into power structure.

The Kremlin has better intelligence on what's going on in Army, police, even Nasser's own party, than does Nasser himself. Alexandria & Port Said are used openly by Soviet Navy. Egypt's airfields are available to Soviet planes.

Something new has been added to Soviet position in Mideast. There's now an alternative to Nasser in Arab world.

In Iraq, a new man's on top. Ahmed Hassan al-Bakr made himself master of Iraq last July in 2 swift coups within 15 days. He runs Baghdad, looks to Russia, not US, for arms. Next step could make al-Bakr head of a 'Greater Syria' uniting Iraq & Syria. Then . . .

Iraq plus Syria stretches across Mideast heartland from Mediterranean to Persian Gulf. Together, these countries hold 11 million people, compared with 26 million in Egypt. But Iraq is rich with oil of its own, lies close to much more oil in Iran, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia.

And Iraq's al-Bakr on rise among Arabs, could outlast ailing Nasser as Arab leader. So there are more Russians in Baghdad, more talk in Damascus of Greater Syria.

Russia, not US, is gaining in Arab world. US influence in Mideast is challenged everywhere.

King Faisal of Saudi Arabia, like Shah of Iran, is impatient with US blindness to threat of Soviet gains.

Algiers is a port of call for Soviet warships. In Mediterranean, US 6th Fleet faces challenge from modern Soviet fleet, including a helicopter carrier. Russia clearly seeks to match US power in E. Mediterranean, which is link between Soviet strategy in E. Europe & Mideast.

When Suez is reopened. Russia will be the superpower with most influence over the Canal.

And a Soviet naval squadron is calling at Indian Ocean & Persian Gulf ports from Iraq to Somalia, from Pakistan & India to Colombo in Ceylon. As it looks now, neither British nor US, but Soviet fleet will be #1 sea power on Indian Ocean when Suez once again opens E. Mediterranean.

If that happens, Russia, not US, may be #1 in S. Asia. (USN 10:21)

First this is a wonderful development—Russia dominant in Mideast, US being squeezed out. Second: it seems Russian power center must leave Egypt and swing to Syria and Iraq (Biblical Assyria), for Assyria, not Egypt is the literal & original King of the North.

FRANCE Blocks Defence Moves

Even before he left Paris, DeGaulle indicated his disinterest in increased military cooperation between France & Germany.

And in his 2 days of talks with Kiesinger he systematically demolished all of Bonn's other schemes for responding to the new Soviet threat. (Nwk 10:7)

This silly old man with his illusions of grandeur is an inexplicable phenomenon, except that prophecy requires the Unclean Frog Power to act like this in preparing the world for Armageddon.

WEBB: "Russia Leads in Space"

Zond 5's successful loop around moon and its safe recovery in Indian Ocean, provided fair warning last week that Russia's well and truly back in moon race.

Retiring NASA Chief Webb was mightily impressed by the flight, calling it "the most important demonstration of total space capacity by any nation." (Tm 10:4)

In MANY ways—air, land & space—Russia is pressing relentlessly for world superiority, just as prophecy has guided our brethren to expect for over 100 yrs.

US ARMS GREEK DICTATORS

Ever since they seized power 18 mos. ago, Greece's ruling colonels have waged a remarkable successful campaign to secure international acceptance of their regime. Though their coup was bitterly denounced in practically every capital in the world, the colonels have managed to win grudging diplomatic recognition from the major powers as the effective masters of Greece.

Last wk., US resumed heavy arms shipments to Greece. Political & military developments in Europe have given the colonels considerable leverage over US. The growing Soviet Mediterranean naval presence convinced US of need to strengthen NATO's east flank.

Even more important, the Czech invasion & the continuing threat to Yugoslavia were a clear indication that Greece's armed forces should be brought up to a high state of readiness. Making the most of Greece's new strategic importance, junta demands 50% more US aid.

As Washington Post put it: "In the name of defending the free world, US props up a govt. that withholds freedom from its own people." (Tm 11:1)

The realities & necessities of national interests make a mockery of principles & ideals. "Democracy" is, & always has been, a very rare & imperfect flower. Oppression & dictatorship is the normal historic human pattern.

NO HOPE for RACE FAIRNESS

A civil-rights organization finds there is little hope that segregation can be eliminated in Southern schools. There seems almost no hope, virtually no reason to find optimistic words, to say things may improve.

There have been lawlessness & disorder rampant across the South since '54 ruling that racial discrimination in education be ended. This has been the signal failure in a whole incredible series of failures in the rights of Negroes, in society's obligations to the poor.

Calling its report dismal, the council said it comes at a time when many Americans—young people & Negroes especially—are disaffected, disillusioned, disgusted with the govt, basic institutions, & social values of their country. (USN 10:28)

Anyone living in US & in daily contact with the bigoted» callous, selfish outlook of the white community when in any way personally affected by this issue, must know there is no solution this side of the Kingdom of God.

S AMERICA: HOPELESS ILLS

Ouster in Peru of one of this Hemisphere's most progressive presidents, followed by seizure of US oil properties, raises once again the question: Is there any hope for Latin America?

Outlook is for a Latin America doomed to more poverty, instability, & tyranny that have plagued it throughout its history.

Why such pessimism? Only handful of Latin American countries have done anything about population explosion. Inflation continues to gnaw at savings, productivity & living standards—inflation at one of world's highest rates.

But Govt. after Govt. rejects steps to trim bloated bureaucracies & reduce heavy deficits. Nationalism is on upsurge, scaring away sorely needed foreign capital, and hampering efforts to unify Hemisphere.

These & other ills flourish in Latin America despite billions of \$s from US over last decade. Signs of turmoil:—

MEXICO—Student rioters battle troops in worst violence in 40 yrs.

GUATEMALA—Guerrilla war waged by Communists & extreme rightists; US Ambassador assassinated.

HAITI—Dictator Duvalier suppresses enemies with ruthless killings & imprisonments.

VENEZUELA—Communist guerrillas roam some country areas, threaten to disrupt Dec. presidential election.

COLOMBIA — Castroites infiltrate bandit gangs & terrorize rural sections.

PERU—Military junta on Oct. 3 toppled country's elected Pres.

BOLIVIA—Pres. Barrientos facing new guerrilla threat.

BRAZIL—Govt. failure to cope with soaring population & economic woes is stirring growing opposition.

CHILE—Student violence increasing, Communist strength rising.

URUGUAY—Gripped by labor agitation, much of it stirred by Communists.

ARGENTINA—Pres. Ongania dismisses nation's military chiefs after disagreements over policy.

Army take-over in Peru means that military men now hold sway in 3 of Latin America's 4 major nations—Argentina & Brazil the others—Mexico the exception.

In Mexico, after yrs. of relative peace & stability, Govt. recently shaken by over 2 months of bloody disorders involving students.

In all Latin America, the soaring population ranks as the greatest problem of all. People are multiplying faster than the food to feed them, & also outpacing the rate of economic growth that means jobs.

In country after country, Govts. come & go, by coup or otherwise, but the staggering problems that plague Latin America remain—& grow. (USN 10:21)

What a sad roster of man's evil, incompetence & hopelessness! "Doomed to poverty, instability & tyranny" is all the bulk of the world can ever hope for under human rule.

AMERICANS ARMING TO TEETH

US is a populace heavily armed with lethal weapons. And this at a time of fear in a climate of violence; a fear of dissent & of turbulence; a fear of excessive reprisals & forceful repressions.

Guns feed this climate. There is a most threatening interaction between fear, violence & an armed populace.

Americans are arming themselves to the teeth. Sales of firearms—rifles, shotguns & handguns—jumped from 1.8 million in '58 to 4.7 million in '67 —& an estimated 3 million in first 6 months of '68. Even those figures are incomplete. (Tm 10:11)

These events are crowding in on us so tremendously that it's hard to really realize we are living right in the midst of such an almost incredible fulfilment of prophecy concerning the Time of the End.

GROWING IMPORTANCE of OIL

Between now & '80, free world's need for all forms of energy will climb to the equivalent of 110 million barrels of oil a day (from 64 million now).

Lion's share of increase will come from oil. W. Europe will use more than twice as much oil in '80. In US in '80, oil will have 41% of energy market, natural gas 25%, coal 18%, nuclear energy 12%, hydroelectric power 4%.

Meaning's clear: Companies will have to find vast new oil reserves. Free world today spends \$8 billion a yr. just to hunt oil. (USN 10:28)

This emphasizes the increasing strategic importance of the Mideast, where most of world's known oil reserves exist.

CZECHS: RUSSIA ONLY WINNER

It's clear now, wks. after the event, that Czech invasion had many losers & just one winner—Russia.

The Russians can list these gains: Most important to them, they successfully applied the brakes to Communist reform & independence. They haven't yet achieved all they want, but are confident they will.

As a by-product of invasion, they have managed to alter the balance of military power in Central Europe to their own advantage. Suddenly there are 100's of 1000's of Red troops in a sector formerly manned by a fraction of that many Czechs.

No military countermeasures of importance have been made in West.

Anyone who has spent much time in Prague recently can't help but feel that sooner or later the Czechs will be forced into a made-in-Moscow mould, just as Hungarians were after '56 revolt. (USN 10:21)

* * *

With cruel inexorability, a mood of helplessness began to seep thru Czechoslovakia last wk. Last shred of hope that Czechs would somehow manage to outmanoeuvre their Soviet masters all but vanished. (Nwk 10:21)

* * *

Any surviving illusion that Czechoslovakia was still a sovereign state was irreparably shattered last wk. with signing of a treaty giving Russia right to station troops there indefinitely.

Dictated by Russia & dutifully ratified by the Czech Assembly, it was laced with flexible language that gave Russia the right to increase their occupation force to reoccupy Czech cities at will.

Moscow is in the process of setting up a highly sophisticated command network complete with most modern radar & communications equipment, covering all Czechoslovakia. It's full military occupation.

Russians are known to be re-establishing secret-police units disbanded after liberalization last spring.

Russians so busy in Prague that Czech Govt. finds it increasingly difficult to keep tabs on them.

Ease with which Russia consolidated its position in Czechoslovakia has stirred 2nd thoughts in Washington about Soviet plans elsewhere.

Fears are that Russia's success in imposing its will on Prague will encourage it to have a try at Yugoslavia. (Nwk 10:28)

Russia clearly IS the winner. Efficiently, irresistibly, without bloodshed, they have stepped in & taken complete control of a nation that was drifting away from their grip. It is a big lesson to other would-be drifters in the expanding Red orbit, & a jolt to the West's wishful illusions that the Russian Empire is disintegrating.

Russia To Be # 1 in Fishing?

Russia will export canned fish, other products, in a big way after '70. New factory ships being built can stay at sea 9 mos. Russia's goal: #1 fishing nation. (USN 10:28)

EUROPE FEARS RUSSIAN AIMS

Europe's shaken and unsettled. Sudden presence of 275,000 Soviet troops in Czechoslovakia has provoked a pervading sense of unease, tipped military balance of power in favor of Reds and raised continuing worries about the reasonableness of Soviet leaders. In both Yugoslavia and Rumania, fears intensified last week of being next target.

A new country has joined the ranks of the anxious. Austria has scrupulously avoided any sort of cold war entanglements. Even so, Russia, angered that Austria is a haven for Czech refugees, lashed out at the Austrians, charging, among other things, that the press sought to "blacken and revile" Warsaw Pact forces.

Nowhere is Europe's new mood of fear felt more keenly than in West Germany. There are now more Soviet troops along Germany's border than any time since '45. Recently Russia has directed a propaganda barrage against Bonn far exceeding any previous effort.

Russia has moved to block West Germany's diplomatic and economic penetration of E. Europe. At the same time, in a cleverly coordinated set of moves, Soviets have made it far harder for W. Germans at home to keep their own political house in order. (Tm 10:4).

More & more, the Czech invasion is seen as an ominous turning-point—an end to many illusions & a revelation of reality. The reality is Russian might & imperial ambition.

AFRICA RACE WAR INCREASING

A fuse is burning that may touch off a full-scale war between the races in Africa. Some shooting is under way. Increased fighting power is being developed by both sides. Zambia's Pres. Kaunda says, "All of S. Africa is on fire."

Violence is mounting in Rhodesia. Hundreds of black guerrillas are trying to sneak across the Zambezi into Rhodesia. Once ill-equipped & poorly organized, the guerrillas now wear combat uniforms, seem to be well-led & know how to use their Russian, Czech & Chinese weapons.

The guerrillas seem to have ample ammunition & a wide range of weapons — the Chinese-made AK-47 automatic assault rifle, machine guns, rocket launchers, grenades & pistols.

A line from Portuguese Angola eastward to Portuguese Mozambique divides Africa into 2 armed camps. African countries north of that line say they intend to bring down white-run states to the South.

Angola & Mozambique have long been the scene of fighting between rebels & Portuguese troops. Now Rhodesia is in a small war & Zambia is in danger of being sucked in.

If the rebel forces swell & become stronger, the shooting war that is growing hotter in Zambezi Valley could be spark that touches off race war all Africa fears. (USN 10:14)

Around the world, new nations & old, the picture's the same: strife, hate & violence.

EUROPE FEARS to IRK RUSSIA

In the days immediately following the Czech invasion even most powerful of NATO nations seemed loath to respond with anything more forceful than ritualistic condemnations of Soviet aggression.

Far from issuing some sort of "thus far & no farther" warning to Russia. NATO members seemed to tiptoe about, as though fearing that anything less than the mildest of behaviour might somehow antagonize the Russian bear.

The Czech crisis notwithstanding, both East & West were still pursuing detente. Gromyko pointedly squeezed in a private 90-min. huddle with W. Germany's Wily Brandt. In a speech delivered earlier in the wk, W. Germany's Kiesinger offered, despite the Czech crisis, to reopen a dialogue with Moscow.

The military credibility of W. Germany's defence forces has been called into question by the sheer speed & power of the Czech invasion, Russia demonstrated that without any additional build-up on their part they could launch an attack which could rapidly destroy all of W. Germany. (Nwk 10:21)

In the past few months, it seems to be becoming gradually accepted that Russia is the only power in Europe, & Europe is slowly reconciling to accepting its new master. The concept of NATO defence is a pitiful illusion, especially since De-Gaulle destroyed it as a credible entity by taking France out of it.

Red Ship Growth Panics the West

Suddenly Russia's merchant marine is ringing alarm bells in West. Soviets offer cut-rates between Europe & Australia—up to 25% below commercial lines. Six Russian ships plan 30 cruises starting in Dec. Target is 10,000 passengers.

West shipping executives trying to figure what to do. Their answer? None yet. Things may get worse.

Soviet merchant marine is expected to double in next decade. It's already 3 times as big as in '60. (USN 10:28)

At present rates of increase, Russia in the very near future must inevitably lead the world in ships. Do we appreciate the full impact of this almost incredible expansion of sea-power in just a few years?

NY: GROWING RACE TENSION

One of ugliest aspects of NY's 3rd teachers' strike in 6 wks is the growing tension between Jews & Negroes. The Teacher's Union which called the strike, is more than 90% white & about 2/3 Jewish.

The conflict is spilling over into more traditional forms of bigotry.

Jewish teachers across the city have been badly frightened by the disclosure that some teachers received unsigned anti-Semitic literature in their mailboxes. (USN 10:28)

This is sad—that 2 long-persecuted minorities should be at each other's throats. But while man rules, it will be no different.

FEAR OF VIOLENCE FILLS US

The '68 U.S. election is dominated by a pervasive and obsessive issue: law and order. Its symptoms: fear, frustration, anger. Law-&-order issue raised violence to a national force.

Eighty-one percent in U.S. believe law enforcement has broken down. The vehemence and profanity with which white voters voice their racial views have risen over last 2 months. Fear of violence permeates entire U.S., wafted by TV and newspaper headlines. (Tm 10:4).

Truly the fear of violence DOES permeate the entire US, & much of the world beside. It is EXACTLY as the Scriptures foretold 2000 yrs. ago of the time of the end: "As it was in the days of Noah" . . . "All the earth filled with violence."

1 WORLD, or TOWER of BABEL?

After WW II there was this dream: Countries would join under UN banner to maintain peace. Quarrels would be settled peacefully.

Today the dream's fading. World's fragmenting again. Old forces of nationalism & isolationism are re-emerging. Nations pursue their own narrow interests.

France under DeGaulle: Vetoed British entry into European Common Mkt; pulled out of NATO; sought increased ties with Russians & Reds; assailed US positions in Vietnam; tried to destroy the \$ & pound.

Britain, perhaps more than any other nation, 20 yrs. ago embraced the "one world" dream. Over last 20 yrs, disillusionment swept Britain in 3 major waves. First came realization that UN, hub of British post-war policy, could never be built into a world govt.

Then Britain created a new Commonwealth out of her former empire, hoping to build a bridge between industrialized white countries & underdeveloped non-white nations. That hope soon withered too; so Britain wrote off Commonwealth.

Finally, in '60s, Britain conceded that only by joining the economic community on the Continent could she play a major world role. But DeGaulle barred the door.

The sudden rise of Welsh & Scottish nationalist movements is turning out to be 1 of most significant political phenomena in Britain today. Nationalists want local autonomy, if not outright independence.

Asia in '68 is not growing together, either in idea or spirit. From Pakistan to Japan, confrontations overshadow co-operation. Vietnam & Korea are divided. There's fighting in Vietnam; border clashes in Korea.

Philippines & Malaysia edge toward war over conflicting claims in Sabah. There are disputes between Malaysia & Thailand, Cambodia & Siam, India & Pakistan. (USN 10:14)

Why do apparently intelligent men still dream this obviously impossible dream of world peace when the Bible plainly tells them there can be no peace but only more & more wars as long as human nature rules & mankind is godless & wicked?

NY's "MESS" IS "HOPELESS"

NY's mess is taking on a hopeless look. Added to chronic chaos was a threat of complete anarchy in the city's labor relations. Another alarming factor was sudden intensification of racial frictions. Police & firemen were pressing a crippling work slowdown.

A strike of teachers—3rd in 2 mos.—was in its 2nd wk., disrupting the education of more than a million pupils. The school strike looked more & more like a racial & religious battle. They mayor warned that racial & religious tension were "pulling this city apart" & "growing every day."

Welfare rolls are rising more than 20,000 a mo.; by Jan. 1 there will be more than a million on relief—1 of every 8 New Yorkers. Welfare spending now costs \$1.4 billion a yr., 4 times 5 years ago.

Welfare recipients make trouble. One group went on a rampage recently, wrecking a welfare center in protest against a simplified payments system designed to increase efficiency. People on relief rolls are organized along labor-union lines.

While problems of immediate urgency seethed, NY City's other woes—rising crime, choking traffic jams in street & in skies above airports, soaring costs of living, a desperate housing shortage, neighbourhoods dying from decay, a transportation mess affecting subways, buses & railroads, labor snarls,—grew bigger day by day, as for yrs. (USN 11:4)

* * *

NY City, day by day, little by little, is sliding toward chaos. In what most responsible citizens concede to be one of the ugliest situations in memory, strikes & the threat of strikes pitted not only union against the city—but worse, black against white, Jew against Gentile, middle class against poor.

Possibly worst of all was the damage done to the conception of law & order, as police sneered at laws they were sworn to enforce.

For 3rd time since Sept. the majority of NY's 58,000 teachers defied that state law to go out on strike, & over a million students were denied the vital right of education. Children watched as picketers traded insults & obscenities with non-strikers & parents.

What began as a labor dispute grew from day to day into a more fundamental quarrel of politics, race & culture.

NY could be the greatest tinderbox in the world. The same forces of race & poverty, fear & instability that transfix NY now are present in scores of other US cities.

NY is a pattern setter. If it should prove ungovernable or explode in bitterness, no other city would feel secure in a time of increasingly racial & ethnic polarization.

800,000 units, ¼ of NY's dwellings, are listed as substandard. Scattered heaps of filth testify to perhaps the most unkempt city on continent.

Size can mean healthy growth or cancer. In NY, it's become cancer. More than ever, the people are not lovely, or gentle, or likely to say "Excuse me." It's all right there in the last 2 volumes of Gibbon.

For the city's minorities, it is not a question of dullness or excitement, but survival in the jungle.

⅔ of the city's teachers are Jewish. If Negro teachers & Negro supervisors took over in decentralized districts, they would almost certainly displace many white teachers & upset a delicate ethnic balance.

Almost ignored were 1,100,000 students, who are not only losing classroom time but possibly suffering serious psychological damage from the conflict. The children sense that the order of society is very fragile.

Many Negro students would probably be better off not even attending the typical NY school.

The city school today seems incapable of helping the ghetto children. Each yr. they fall farther behind. In one Manhattan school, 47% of Grade 2 pupils are below national reading norm; in Grade 3, 52% are behind, while 72% of Grade 4 lag.

The city's atmosphere in the last wk. degenerated into intolerable racial & religious tension. Every day this strike goes on, things are getting worse. You can sense there is much more anti-white feeling by blacks, much more anti-black feeling by whites. (Tm 11: 1)

This is sadly typical of all US's big cities—increasingly chaotic & explosive jungles of vice, corruption & crime. Fear, selfishness & antagonism flourish in the climate of these man-made Towers of Babel.

MASS VIOLENCE YEAR-ROUND

The '68 riot record is already worst in U.S. history—and it threatens to grow even worse before yr. ends.

Race conflict continues in schools and colleges. Some schools have had to close. It looks like a long, hard winter for U.S. education.

Street violence also continues. Mass violence now becoming a yr.-round activity. 526 incidents of violence this yr. to Aug. 31—249 all last yr. Property damage by riots also up over last yr.

Apparently Americans are just getting more used to riots. We foresee increasing school disorders; also increasing deliberate attacks, or acts of insurrection.

We are beginning a period of guerrilla activity. US, in a record yr. of rioting, appears to be facing another yr. of peril. (USN 10: 7)

This appears to be a true summing up. US violence is less spectacular & haphazard, but more organized & more vicious, & the confrontation is more implacable.

RUSSIAN MIDEAST PEACE BID

Last wk., US revealed a peace plan offered by Russia proposing a Mideast settlement guaranteed by Britain, France, US & Russia. US saw the Soviet initiative as a possibility that US & Russia might somehow find a means of "imposing" an Arab- Israel peace. (Nwk 10:7)

RUSSIA BULLIES NEIGHBOURS

In the past, Soviets have always regarded it their duty to defend Communism against the imperialists. But now Russia asserts the right to intervene in any member country of the "Socialist Commonwealth" where the party or supremacy of the party might be threatened.

The Russians have also kept up what is developing into practically a weekly habit: either scaring or putting off balance yet another neighbour. Recently Rumania, Yugoslavia, W. Germany & Austria have all received the treatment. This wk. it was Finland's turn.

Once again, the Czech leaders have returned from Moscow beaten men, committed to a fresh series of repressive measures. (Tm 10:18)

* * *

It's a hard line being laid down by Kremlin—bullying its neighbours & defying world to do anything about it. Russia has plunged the cold-war thermometer to freezing.

In space of a few wks, Russia invaded Czechs, sent invasion jitters thru Rumania & Yugoslavia, & threatened W. Germany—taking on rote again of a dangerous Russia.

At the same time it continues to supply the ammunition that fuels the Viet war & keeps Mideast fused for conflict.

While holding out vague promises of "disarmament," it's racing to outstrip US in nuclear firepower & in the conquest of outer space for military purposes.

This tough course has been charted by the 11 men who rule Russia—the members of the Communist Party's all powerful Politburo. Most of the 11 joined the Community Party—and rose in its ranks—under Stalin.

They survived the bloody purges of the '30s & '40s, during which Stalin eliminated both real & fancied opponents.

Only his most faithful henchmen lasted thru those yrs. & moved up. Most of them had yrs. of schooling under Stalin in the use of force & deception to suppress opposition. (USN 10:21)

* * *

The Czech invasion used twice as many troops as NATO has available in all of Central Europe. In E Europe, there's expectation of more Soviet pressure, more military manoeuvres, more invasions.

Logical future targets are Rumania & Yugoslavia. Yugoslav Communists say imperialism now rules Russia as in days of Czars.

All evidence is that Soviet leaders care little or nothing for what W. Communists do or say. Now, as when Russia attacked Finland & made its deal with Nazi Germany, Moscow expects reliable Reds to follow the Moscow line. Those who don't as Soviet leaders see it, are expendable. (USN 11:4)

Russia, conscious of her growing power & Europe's squabbling weakness, is more & more bluntly asserting her arrogant dominance.

IRAQ: "HATE-US" CAMPAIGN

A hate America campaign is reaching new heights in Iraq— vicious even for this part of the world. It involves not just propaganda, but the active boycott & harassment of US interests.

It has been gathering force since a new Govt. seized power last July. Since June, '67, a boycott of American imports has been in effect. Communists are now coming back into favor. Hundreds of them have been released from jail.

For most of the problems that plague the country, the Govt. uses both Israel & US as whipping boys. (USN 11:4)

Iraq is ancient Assyria, the cruel & vicious power that gives its name & characteristics to the latter-day Gogian head of the Image.

INDIA-USSR UNITY STRAINED

India's long-standing friendship with Russia shows signs of strain. India publicly deplored Czech invasion, & have since privately deplored Russian efforts to block conference of non-aligned powers, which undoubtedly would denounce Soviet move against Czechs. (Nwk 10:28)

Campbellites Vote Central Rule

After 166 yrs, the "Disciples of Christ" last wk. overwhelmingly approved a new constitution that will transform the movement from a loose group of autonomous congregations, into an organization with central direction & authority.

As the Disciples grew in numbers, (membership now 1,250,000) & expanded their activities, they found it difficult to get along without some kind of central authority.

Last wk's decision came after a decade-long battle in which 2000 of their 8000 churches broke away.

Central policy will be decided by a new General Assembly meeting every 2 years. A Pres. & administrative committee will carry out Assembly decisions.

Opponents of centralized authority denounce it as a betrayal of the movement's tradition of local autonomy, and say,

"Why is all this control from the top necessary? There has never yet been an organization that, given power, didn't use it. This is no less than incipient dictatorship. At a time when Catholic Church is loosening the bonds of its hierarchy, we find ourselves putting them on."

One concrete result of the reorganization will be that the Disciples can take a more decisive part in the Consultation on Church Union, the ambitious ecumenical venture seeking to merge 9 denominations into a Protestant super-church. (Tm 10:11)

This is interesting & significant, especially as it's the Campbellites, from whom bro. Thomas came in his search for the Truth. They have decided, after all these years, to abandon scriptural principles & appoint a

Central head, so they may have the official machinery to join the ecumenical movement back to Rome. But some among them see the dangers.

CZECH RAPE TROUBLES REDS

Russia doubtlessly calculated the storm of protest by other Communist parties at the Czech invasion would soon subside, just as it did after Hungary in '56.

After all, the tradition of loyalty to the "Motherland of the Revolution" is long, emotional & prudent. As the world's 2nd greatest power, Russia can provide better than anyone else the money, arms & technical aid that struggling Communists in other countries need.

But 9 wks. after the tanks rolled into Prague, the controversy within the Communist world over the Soviet action shows almost no sign of diminishing. Of the world's 89 Communist parties, less than ¼ have sided with Russia, & most of those that have are small & relatively insignificant. The dissenters protesting the invasion include the most important European Communist parties. The situation is without precedent in Red history.

The act of invasion was bad enough, but the subsequent rationale for it that the Soviets evolved is equally alarming to many Communists. Russia claims the right to intervene in any Socialist country where the practice & purity of Soviet-style Communism is threatened.

No matter what doubletalk Moscow may use to disguise it, the new policy is nothing less than a doctrine of Russian imperialism. (Tm 11:1)

"Russian Imperialism!" It almost reads as if bro. Thomas is writing today's news dispatches!

US to SELL JETS to ISRAEL

US, after delaying almost a yr. will begin negotiations with Israel for sale of 50 supersonic jet fighters. The negotiations marked a setback to hopes that a new Mideast arms race could be avoided.

But Russia already had damped such hopes by supplying supersonic jets to Egypt, Syria & Iraq—giving them a 6-to-1 advantage over Israel. Humphrey & Nixon both endorsed sale of jets to Israel. (Tm 10:11)

REDS MOVING AGAINST BERLIN

E. German Reds are visibly preparing a major move against W. Berlin. It looks softer to Reds, appears no longer such a citadel of Western freedom, no longer so bright a show window, or such a symbol of West unity. W. Berlin's morale is sagging visibly: labor force shrinking, growing older; young leaving. The show window's turning dusty. (USN 10:7)

REDS LEAD in SUB BUILDING

Russia has built a sub shipyard, completely roofed over to escape reconnaissance & satellite observations, that can turn out more nuclear subs than all US shipyards combined have been producing.

Its capacity: over doz. subs a yr. US produces about 2 nuclear subs each yr. (Nwk 10:7)

We are told Russia already has the biggest sub fleet ever known, & she is multiplying her building facilities as fast as she can.

School Race Violence Grows

US is beset with riots & disorders in the public-school system growing out of demands for more Negro teachers.

Recently the NY Board of Ed. had to close down a Brooklyn school as a result of a request for segregation in a new framework—black faculty, black students, black curriculum.

In Phil, there have been clashes between police, Negro pupils & white residents. The Supt. closed down 2 high schools for several days.

In Chicago a high school was closed when fires & fighting broke out as Negro students boycotted classes, demanding more Negro teachers.

Racial tensions also caused a disruption of classes for 3 days in several Pittsburgh schools.

Negro groups in the North are trying to obtain virtually same thing Southern whites have been seeking—right of racial majority in each community or district to decide for itself how public schools are to be conducted.

Demonstrations have inflamed the people, especially in the cities. Resentments have been provoked, & now we are witnessing the reaction of the white majority. This is a tragic consequence of US's racial controversy.

We have not yet recognized seriousness of problem of racism. Every day, as newspapers are filled with dispatches telling of violence between Whites & Negroes, ill feelings are stirred up & racial consciousness is intensified. This inevitably worsens relations. (USN 10:21)

* * *

Schools & colleges now have become the nation's racial battlegrounds. The '68-69 school yr. is only in its 2nd mo. & already more than 40 communities have been hit by outbreaks of violence, boycotts or other turmoil in public schools.

The situation in NY City was ominous. Snipers wounded 3 policemen. On Oct. 14, NY City schools were shut down for the 3rd time in 6 wks. by a teacher strike. Alleged acts of terrorism including death threats to teachers were under investigation.

Still more—& possibly much worse—violence in the schools is seen ahead. Schools everywhere, both college & pre-college, will be sites of disorder.

Rising antagonism between white & black students was found in a nationwide survey. As violence flared in schools & college around US, racial antagonism seemed to be hardening on both sides. Campus confrontation between angry blacks & white not only are going to get worse, but that they may go on for 50 yrs. (USN 10:28)

US school violence & insurrection has reached almost unbelievable proportions, as the bitter whirlwind harvest of foolish, unscriptural theories, mushrooming juvenile lawlessness, & racial antagonisms.

RUSSIA EXPLOITS US DRIFT

Breakdown in Nation's Capital: Nowhere in sight—at least before Jan. 20 and a changed Administration— is there the prospect of firm leadership & direction for a nation that gives the appearance of drifting.

Russia, aware of the US drift, has been encouraged to move back to an aggressive & expansive role.

Russia's fuelling the Viet war. They're tightening their grip in E. Europe & threatening Yugoslavia. Expect new threats aimed at Berlin.

The new Pres. will start with a disorganized & rundown Govt. machine. Job facing next Pres. will be immense one of straightening out machinery of Govt. that has drifted into disarray. (USN 10:14)

Man cannot fight the purpose of God. The vast potential of US MUST be dissipated & confused, so single-minded Russia can achieve her world goal.

BRITAIN: Religious Violence

Britain's awakening to fact it has a US style problem of violence & discrimination. The trouble began in Londonderry, N. Ireland, Oct. 5. Over 100 persons injured when police moved in to break up demonstrations.

Most of the demonstrators were Catholics who say Protestants get preference. Catholics say they're crowded into substandard housing—which they call "white ghettos"— where opportunities are limited. (USN 10:21)

US LOSING OUT in TRADE RACE

US exports are lagging; imports soaring. US's once-huge trade surplus is vanishing. A fast-growing flood of goods from abroad is pouring into US. This yr. US will buy from abroad \$2½ billion more of commercial products than it sells abroad.

If it were not for items from US that are subsidized in important part by US taxpayers, US world trade would be badly unbalanced.

Since '57, foreign autos have increased sales to US by more than 10 times; '68 sales will reach \$3.6 billion. Not long ago US was almost unchallenged in this field.

Story's same in iron & steel. Imports have jumped nearly 12 times, from \$162 million to \$1.9 billion.

TV & radio products, largely from Japan, have leaped from \$16 million to \$450 million. (USN 11:4)

US 'BECOMING UNGOVERNABLE'

It's not very difficult to imagine an unpopular & near-impotent Pres. presiding, a couple of yrs. From now, over a nation in terrible turmoil.

US is becoming ungovernable partly because of the explosions in the blighted areas of our cities, & partly because so many young people have become disenchanted with "the System." (Nwk 10:28)

ARMIES CONTROL S AMERICA

Once more, a Latin American army has taken over a civilian regime. The coup in Peru brought to $\frac{3}{4}$ the proportion of people in S. America under military rule. (Tm 10:11)

CRIME & FEAR SAP US POWER

Criminal violence is exploding into most serious domestic crisis facing US. FBI figures show ominous surge in crimes, riots, & brutality nearly everywhere, especially among young.

The '67 violent-crime rate more than double the '40 rate. An epidemic of crime & violence has affected virtually every segment of US society. The mugger, rapist & hoodlum stalk our streets in frightening numbers. Fear of venturing outside home at night is a fact of urban life.

In '67, 76 police were slain in US while on duty. Physical assaults against officers also increasing.

A disproportionate share of national crime is committed by persons under 18. Violence is particularly prevalent today among young people in large cities. Vicious juvenile gangs terrorize the slum sections.

In Chicago area alone, there have been over 1,000 gangland slayings since 1919; only 17 solved.

The enormous cost in money & ruined lives which the statistics of US crime represent, touches almost every citizen. Cost is staggering—over \$27 billion yrly. Cost to society of fear & anguish resulting from violence cannot be assessed.

The corrosion of fear which violence brings saps our strength as a nation & weakens the social fabric of our communities. (USN 10:7)

This is a terrible picture of a "civilized, Christian" nation, but exactly what the Bible tells us to expect in the last days—"an ominous surge in crimes, riots, & brutality everywhere." The old restraints are gone. The veneer is wearing off. Raw, crude, brutal, lustful human nature is taking over everywhere—the lust of the flesh, the lust to possess, the lust to destroy. In US each yr., 20 million hunters take to the woods to satiate their lust to kill

SINGAPORE Draws US Business

More & more of a swing to Singapore by US business. Many big US companies looking at Singapore for first time.

There's plenty of financing on hand there. An easy-to-train labor force, reasonable pay rates & good productivity make a good labor package. Singapore's transportation layout can handle anything from junks to jets & super-tankers.

Electricity, water supply, health conditions, school facilities, housing are good. (USN 10:21)

TURKS TURNING AGAINST US

Once among staunchest of US allies, many Turks have been embittered by US failure to support Turkey in its blood-feud with Greece over Cyprus—& last wk's resumption of US arms shipments to Greece merely heightened Turkish suspicions that US basically sides with Athens.

And in their pursuit of friendlier relations with Russia, with which Turkey has a 400-mi. border, some Turks have come to see their NATO membership as a distinct liability. (Nwk 11:4)

SPACE: US Settling for #2??

Has US settled for #2 in space? Dr. Wernher von Braun answers—

"All our information indicates clearly that Russian program's richer than ours. They're spending more money than US. They are spending approximately 30 to 50% more in terms of man-hrs per yr than US.

"We have gone down & down & down for last 3 yrs. I see very great danger. There's no indication whatsoever that Russia's program is undergoing similar cuts. On contrary, there's every indication that for last few yrs. it has gained at least 10% a yr, probably more.

"So, while we are virtually scrapping much of the capability we've built up as result of the lunar-landing program, for instance, the Russians are continuing to build up.

"For the last 2 yrs. my main effort at the Marshall Center has been following orders to tear down the industrial structure that we had built up at great expense to the taxpayer. The sole purpose seems to be to make certain that in '72 nothing of our capability is left. That's my main job at the moment.

"The fact as to who will be first on moon will not go unnoticed on earth. The respect for the scientific status & technological quality of the 2 countries will be compared in these terms for many yrs. perhaps for generations to come. After all, who remembers the 2nd man to fly the Atlantic Ocean?

"I must agree with James Webb, NASA chief, when he said: 'Russia will retain a commanding lead in space exploration for yrs. to come because of repeated US budget cuts.'

"I'm convinced that, unless something dramatic happens, Russia will fly rings around us in space within 5 yrs. We will have a situation within 10 yrs. where big Russian space stations will routinely fly over US.

"If we keep cutting back our own space effort, it would mean our abdication as a first-class power.

"I don't mean this solely in military terms. We would be abdicating our role as leader in a world technology. It would be comparable to not participating in aviation 50 yrs. ago." (USN 10:14)

* * *

The multibillion-\$ space boom, which less than 5 yrs. ago gave promise of lasting for generations, is grinding to a halt.

No matter what happens in the Project Apollo moon program—success or failure—it will lead to a dead end, as things now stand. No big civilian projects are planned after Americans reach the moon.

Space employment, nationwide, will be down to 220,000 at end of 68, from a peak of 420,000. Workers being let go daily, & scientists & engineers whose recruiting & training took yrs. flock to other jobs.

Production of Saturn V, only US rocket capable of carrying an astronaut to moon, has been stopped beyond the 5 on order. Budget cuts have ended all plans to explore Mars & Venus. Work on a nuclear rocket engine has been cut back.

Reasons for all this? Soaring cost of Vietnam war; public apathy toward space; social ills at home.

Morale is a big NASA worry. There's concern and frustration. Of particular concern is morale of the 52 astronauts, 1/3 of whom are scientists, many of whom will have no rocket to fly when their turn comes. An official warns: "Many astronauts will leave the program if there are further budget cuts. Whole space dream will simply unravel."

The Marshall Space Center, home base of Dr. Wernher von Braun, already is a chief victim of the slowdown. With its job of developing Saturn rockets virtually completed, Marshall has a \$400-million investment & no big future project to work on. Marshall's employment has dropped from 7,000 to 5,000.

Great dreams were in the air when construction of the Miss. Test Facility began in '64 on 141,000 acres. Today, less than 2 yrs. after completion, dreams are shattered.

Main job at the facility is to test the first 2 stages of Saturn V. With no new program in sight, NASA will be stuck in '70 with a \$315 million test site & nothing to test. Force is down from 6000 to 2900. (USN 10:21)

Why, in the face of redoubled Russian space efforts & achievements, is US drastically cutting back its program & pulling down its facilities? Space is the key to world control. Clearly it's the hand of God.

YUGOSLAVS BEGAN RED SPLIT

Source of Moscow's troubles lies in Yugoslavia, where 20 yrs. ago, by introducing the heresy of national Communism, Tito established an example since followed—in greater or lesser degree—by leaders of Czechoslovakia, Rumania, Hungary & even Poland.

"We started all this," a Yugoslav official said last wk., with a mixture of pride & apprehension.

The apprehension, shared by most of the 19 million Yugoslavs, was understandable enough. For the fears of an immediate Soviet invasion have subsided, tension between Moscow & Belgrade is greater than at any time in past 20 yrs.

And it's likely to remain at its present pitch so long as Russia continues "Brezhnev" doctrine.

Under this doctrine, which US regards as one of most potentially dangerous Soviet pronouncements in yrs., Moscow claims legal right to suppress by military force any attempt by an E Europe nation to bolt the 'Socialist Commonwealth.'

Tito last wk. warned Moscow that Yugoslavs would meet any Soviet attack with war. (Nwk 11:4)

The new "Brezhnev Doctrine" is a very interesting development, & a big step in the direction we expect events to take in the rise of Russia to control Europe & the rest of the territory of the Image.

GERMANY: 3rd Richest Nation

Today, German mark is world's strongest currency. Factories running near record levels, profits soaring, jobs plentiful. And all the while, inflation has nearly halted.

The \$ is suspect among many foreign bankers, & US wage-price spiral shows little sign of abating. But W. Germany's booming & beating inflation.

Germany's balance of trade is embarrassingly good: trade surplus expected to be \$4 billion in '68. Germany's trading success in world markets creates problems for other trading nations, who have trouble meeting the competition.

For Britain & US, the problem is selling enough in the world to cover what they import—trade deficits.

Total German output \$130 billion a yr—making it 3rd richest country in world, after US & Russia. German foreign trade 2nd only to US; gold & reserves \$7 billion, 2nd only to US. (USN 9:23)

The mark's rise to strength & pre-eminence, and the \$'s fall to insecurity & weakness, shows that potential strength & advantage, such as US possessed, is meaningless when God chooses to confuse the wise to their own destruction.

N VIETNAM: Completely Rebuilt

To the people of N. Vietnam, the only part of the war that touched them in the past was the devastation & disruption by bombing.

Since Mar. 31 bombing halt, N. Vietnam has been almost completely rebuilt N. of 19th parallel. Steel plants, power plants, bridges, 2 major railway arteries to Red China and roads everywhere, are back in general use. (USN 9:23)

JERUSALEM: Burdensome Stone

For 20 yrs, US Presidents have handled US policies toward Arabs & Jews with great caution. Inside US. issue is political dynamite. Outside US, issue is international dynamite. (USN 9:30)

MASSIVE WAR AID TO EGYPT

Russia is giving Egypt massive new military aid beyond replacement of last year's losses: 500 tanks, 200 MIG jets, several 100 self-propelled artillery pieces. (Tm 10:4).

MEXICO: "WORST VIOLENCE"

Mexico City experienced its worst violence since revolutionary days in '20's. The violence was a case study in the ways in which an insignificant tussle among teenagers can be escalated into a major crisis of law & order thru efforts of Communists & other troublemakers. (USN 10:7)

The phenomenon is worldwide: violence & agitation, fostered & encouraged by Communist incitement. Naturally everything of this nature is blamed on "Communism," even when it's legitimate grievance, but it is the Reds' announced & obvious policy to intensify trouble wherever possible. The unclean Frog Spirit of the French Revolution has permeated the world, fed by man's oppression, poverty, suffering & exploitation of the weak by the strong.

DECREE SPLITS CATHOLICS

Pope's anti-birth control encyclical continues to meet remarkable resistance from Catholics on all levels of the church. Cardinal O'Boyle exhorted the faithful to obey: 1/3 of congregation walked out.

Almost every national Catholic episcopate to issue an interpretation of it has modified, subtly or otherwise, the Pope's decree.

Britain's 26 bishops produced an artfully worded document that stressed obedience to Pope's decree but also had kind words for those who can't accept it. (Tm 10:4)

What a farce! The Catholic Church claims divine infallibility for its Popes, & here is one time if there was one for him to so speak & put an immediate end to their ludicrous groping & squabbling. He gives a decree, but he won't say it's "infallible," tho he claims the power to speak infallibly & settle it for ever.

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