

AWAKE!

Atom Bombing at Bikini

A report on the two bomb tests, and the political repercussions touched off

The Music of Modern Times

An analysis of the musical merits of popular songs,
ragtime and jazz

Enemy Defeats by God's Spirit

Examples of Jehovah's active force working for righteousness

Bromides Are Killers

How ruthless commercialism puts profits
ahead of health and life.



SEPTEMBER 8, 1946 SEMIMONTHLY

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"Awake!" pledges itself to righteous principles, to exposing hidden foes and subtle dangers, to championing freedom for all, to comforting mourners and strengthening those disheartened by the failures of a delinquent world, reflecting sure hope for the establishment of a righteous New World.

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AWAKE!

"Now it is high time to awake."—*Romans 13:11*

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ATOM BOMBING AT BIKINI

"BOMBS AWAY!" Those were the words that were broadcast to the world a few seconds after 9 a.m. on July 1. Those were the words uttered from a B-29 bomber flying some 30,000 feet above the peaceful Bikini atoll located in the Pacific. Far below 42,000 people had assembled to witness the explosion of the fourth atomic bomb as it burst among 73 naval vessels. "The greatest single experiment in all history," it was called. No other event, natural or man-made, has ever been so extensively measured, gauged, photographed and reported. No other event ever had such a build-up by radio and press. It was a great show and the whole world was the audience.

Shortly after Japan was defeated the idea of testing the power of the atom bomb on warships was conceived. Elaborate preparations were made during the months that followed. By January of this year it was announced that the Bikini atoll was the stage for this joint army and navy display known as "Operation Crossroads".

Congressional approval was obtained and May 15 was set as the date of the first test in which an atomic bomb would be exploded in the air over various types of warships. President Tru-

man later put the first test off until July 1. The second test was to be a shallow-water explosion, 18 to 30 feet under the surface. Sometime in 1947 a third test will be held with a deep-sea explosion. Tentatively, the date for this third test, named "Charlie Day", is set for March 1, 1947.

The "guinea pig" fleet itself consisted of 73 ships totaling 335,000 tons. There were battleships, aircraft carriers, cruisers, destroyers, submarines and transports; also German and Japanese ships. These were set out within a circle of 4,000 yards radius. In the middle was the 30-year-old battleship, Nevada, and, painted an international orange color, it made a fine bull's-eye for the target. In



addition to these sacrificial ships were over 100 others used for operational purposes. More than 130 airplanes, including helicopters, were also used.

Army equipment such as tanks, ammunition and poison gas was placed on board the ships. Also quartermaster supplies, like canned food, soft drinks, beer, candy bars and clothing were on deck. Cereal seeds, vegetables, flowers and cotton specimens were also included. Insects that carry yellow fever, spotted fever and dengue were not over-

looked. Yes, even bedbugs were there! Additionally there were thousands of rats and mice, and hundreds of goats and pigs distributed on the vessels as a grisly reminder that they were to die instead of men. In the waters of the lagoon itself some 400 different kinds of fish were included in the observations.

By June 24 all the preliminary arrangements were fixed and a full-dress rehearsal was held, using a dummy bomb. The indications were that this was to be a spectacular show, and so every publicity agency was brought into play. A special ship, the Appalachian, was rigged up with a maze of intercommunication equipment. More than 200 journalists and newspapermen were aboard. Representatives from the eleven member nations of the UN security council were invited. Space was reserved for 60 members of Congress. All together there were about 6,000 observers that were given special polaroid goggles so that they could actually look at the blast. And there were radio commentators too. Their job was to feed the four major networks of America as well as the foreign stations. All together over 1,000 stations devoted 48 minutes of their time, at a cost of \$200,000.

"Able Day," the name given July 1, arrived. At dawn the special B-29 called "Dave's Dream" raced down the runway on Kwajalein island and successfully raised its lethal load into the air. Meanwhile, at Bikini, the men that had been keeping up the pressure in the boilers of the target ships were removed, but not before the last man on each ship had hoisted a special red and yellow flag indicating that none was left on board. The failure of any ship to show the special flag would have caused the test to come to a standstill. Outside the lagoon were 42,000 anxious men, watching and waiting. Admiral Blandy's ship, the Mount McKinley, was 10 to 15 miles away. It was the closest. Beyond, in the

18-to-20-mile zone, were the reporters and visitors.

As the listening world waited intently they could hear in the background the ticking of a metronome that had been placed before a microphone on the deck of the Nevada. Louder than the metronome was the cracking and static and off-stage voices intermingled with the shoutings of nervous radio commentators.

The climax had been reached. Dave's Dream had made two runs over the target to check its radar equipment and get its range. Now it was swinging into the third or live run.

Eyewitness Accounts

On board the Appalachian miles away some watched the blast on the television screen. Others on deck looked through colored glasses as the violence of the atom was released on veteran battleships. For the majority, the show was a disappointment, since many of them had expected to get a thrill similar to that received if standing on the deck of a battleship when it fires a 16-inch broadside in a hurricane. But nothing like that occurred. First, there was a flash, said by some to be disappointingly faint. Then, a few minutes later the sound like distant rolling thunder. Many scientists, Congressmen and UN observers expressed their actual feelings and impressions from what they saw and heard, while others were carried away with their imagination and told the story as if they were actually standing on the deck of the Nevada.

One observer said that it was no more spectacular than the colorful cloud that accompanies a forest fire in British Columbia. The Russian representative, pointing at the cloud, said: "Not so much." A senator first looked at the sun through his colored glasses and then at the blast and said: "My estimation of the flash is that it was not as large or as bright as the sun."

In contrast with these statements are the reports of newspapermen like William L. Lawrence, of the New York *Times*, who wrote:

It was an awesome, spine-chilling spectacle, a boiling, angry, super-volcano struggling toward the sky, belching enormous masses of iridescent flames and smoke and giant rings of a rainbow, at times giving the appearance of a monster tugging at the earth in an effort to lift it and hurl it into space.

The spectacular cloud, made up of billowy, creamy-white clouds streaked with pastel colors of pink and saffron and salmon, towered five miles into the stratosphere. At a height of two miles it swelled into a great knot; at three miles there was another knob; and at the top it spread out like a great mushroom or cauliflower head estimated to have been 12,000 feet in diameter. Meteorologists explained that the peculiar cap was due to the steam cloud's suddenly freezing at 18,000 feet into ice crystals. First reports were that the cloud rose to 50,000 or 60,000 feet. Later, these figures were pared down to 24,000 to 35,000 feet.

The high-speed cameras (there were sixty of them installed on steel towers five and ten miles from the explosion) gave a more accurate picture of what actually happened in that split-second when atom particles started splattering the lagoon of Bikini. These cameras were operated by radio and some of them took 8,000 pictures per second with about one-millionth of a second exposure for each. These pictures showed that at first streamers of bright light shot out from the center. Then, an instant later, a huge ball of fire, more than a mile wide, seared and blackened the ships. A moment later this was replaced by a fog bank of steam, caused when water is suddenly heated above 3,100 degrees Fahrenheit. In the center an atomic tornado of extreme violence was generated which surged upward thousands of feet.

This caused the wind to rush in at a speed of 500 to 1,000 miles an hour.

In the extremely short time that it took the bomb to explode, one-tenth of a millionth of a second, radiant energy was released that had at the center an estimated temperature of 100,000,000 degrees Fahrenheit, ten thousand times hotter than the surface of the sun. In the first 5000th of the first second some of this data was recorded. Also spectrographic measurements were captured. A short time later pilotless drone boats and planes were steered into the target area to take samples of the radioactive water and air. Thousands of pressure, velocity and temperature gauges were used to record the effects of the blast. Geiger counters were installed in all the planes and boats to measure the radioactivity. Individual "security badges" told if the personnel had been subjected to overdoses of the deadly rays.

Some of the Damage Done

The blast slapped the water with such force that it momentarily depressed it like a saucer. Great damage was done, though not of such magnitude as predicted. Five ships were sunk; nine were heavily damaged; forty-five others suffered badly. The blast "damaged more ships than have ever before been damaged by a single explosion", said the official report. Blandy said, though, that one should not be too hasty in drawing conclusions from these meager facts.

Because few ships were sunk outright and the palm trees and steel towers on Bikini island three and a half miles away withstood the blast, many people were prone to pass it off as a miserable failure. Granted that the bomb was not as great as the one dropped on Nagasaki, which was rated as 15,000 times that of a 500-pound bomb, yet one thing is certain, and that is, the atom bomb is still the most monstrous and potent weapon of destruction so far exhibited.

In time of war the ships would have

been crippled to the point of uselessness by losing their radar, radio and fire equipment. Yet more damaging than fire and blast pressure were the invisible rays of radioactive substance, consisting of gamma rays and particles of neutrons, electrons and alpha particles. This form of radiation is equivalent to that of thousands of tons of radium. Bomb-burst radiation, unlike radium, is extremely fierce and lasts but a millionth of a second, but death may follow weeks later. Though at 18 miles distance on the Appalachian this radiation amounted only to that of one-twentieth of a second exposure under ordinary X-ray, which is harmless to humans, yet if those creatures of flesh and blood who were disappointed at the show had been on board the ships in the target area there would have been a heavy loss of life. Many would have died from the blast within 3,000 yards of the center, and within 1,000 yards few would have survived.

Lingering radioactivity in the area was somewhat proportional to the distance from the burst. Forty-eight hours after the blast the beach of Bikini was safe for sunbathers. But some ships closer to the blast were still dangerous on July 4.

First reports said that the bomb was dropped with very good accuracy and that "it could not have been better". But later it was shown that the bomb fell 1,500 to 2,000 feet west of the target ship and to its stern. This explains why the transport Gilliam was sunk "in a matter of seconds", whereas the Nevada escaped. Though Blandy said that the bomb exploded "at exactly the intended height", others claimed that it did not go off at the intended height. It was supposed to have been the same type as that used at Nagasaki, that is, a Plutonium bomb instead of a Uranium 235 type as used at Hiroshima, yet it was "somewhat less powerful" than the Nagasaki bomb. The fact that the cloud did not rise to 60,000 feet was proof of that. Neverthe-

less, it was terrible enough in its destructive force to set the Saratoga afire two miles away.

No tidal wave was created, and the earth was not shaken as predicted. Magnetic and radioactive gauges stationed in such scattered places as Hudson Bay in Canada, Peru and Australia failed to respond, and tidal gauges and seismographs in California and Hawaii were not disturbed. This was because an atomic bomb is only one-thousandth as powerful as a moderate earthquake.

What About the Animals?

Only about ten percent of the goats and pigs were killed outright. So the first conclusions were that radioactivity was not as bad as predicted. The second day goats were found munching hay on the forecastle deck of the hard-hit Pennsylvania. But mice under the gun turrets on the stern of the Nevada a few hundred feet from the center of the blast were all dead. This led Colonel Warren to the belief that ships cannot be built thick enough to protect their crews from the lethal radiation of near-miss atomic blasts. It was also learned that white mice flown through the cloud in drone planes after the blast turned brown. Reports showed that many of those found alive were sick and later died. Some of the animals were given a special bath to remove the radiation, but two weeks after Able Day it was reported from the animal ship, Burleson, that the survivals of the initial blast were "dying like flies". Blandy later denied this as an overstatement, and said mortality was at the "expected rate".

The Second Test at Bikini

Precisely at 8:35 a.m., July 25, called "Baker Day", the first underwater atomic bomb exploded beneath a fleet of 87 naval vessels of various types. Thousands of miles away the listening world heard by radio what sounded like the continual roar of a pounding surf, or

more accurately described as the amplified sound of escaping excess steam from a ship.

Once again a great ball of fire lighted the lagoon. Then thousands of tons of water geysered skyward out of the bowels of the lagoon to a height of 5,000 feet. Intermingled with this water was a gray-blue cloud of radioactive mist and steam. It was peach-colored on the edges and continued to rise to an altitude of two miles, but was bigger at the base than former atomic explosions, resembling a gigantic, shimmering mushroom. Estimated to have a diameter at the base of 2,000 feet, it fogged out and obscured the television screens.

The waves that this explosion raised on the lagoon were said to be all the way from 2 to 10 feet high. Mere ripples they were compared with the predicted 100-foot waves. Nevertheless, this explosion was no firecracker affair. It tossed giant battle-wagons around as if they were toys, and caused considerable damage. One observer said that the atom bomb No. 5 was equal to 50,000 tons of TNT.

The next day early reports indicated ten ships had been sunk, including a battleship and an aircraft carrier, while six others were badly damaged. No ship survived within a radius of a half a mile of the explosion. Double proof has thus been given to show that the atomic bomb is a deadly weapon of destruction to both life and ships, whether it is exploded above or below the surface of the sea.

Why These Tests?

These atom-bomb tests were not sponsored by the UN organization, but were an undertaking by the United States only. The purpose, according to Admiral Blandy, was

primarily to determine the effects of the atomic bomb upon naval vessels to gain information of value to the national defense . . . Secondary purposes are to afford training for Army Air forces personnel in attack

with the atomic bomb against ships and to determine the effect of the atomic bomb upon military installations and equipment.

It was "to improve the defensive features of combatant ships", it was "clearly as a defensive measure", said the brass-buttoned admirals. More is revealed by these statements than appears on the surface.

To say that the tests were "scientific experiments", as some said they were, is not altogether true. The scientists that gave the world the atom bomb did not approve of these tests, and said that nothing new was to be learned from such. The thousand scientists that took part in the test, it is said, did so "with heavy hearts and without enthusiasm". The Federal American Scientists said that "nothing of scientific value and little of technical value to peacetime use of atomic energy" would be learned from the tests. The scientists were not enthusiastic about these purely "defensive" tests.

The Joint Chiefs' Evaluation Board erred when it said that these tests were to enable "the United States to retain its present position of scientific leadership". Military leadership is what many believe they meant. Huge amounts of quartermaster supplies were placed on decks of vessels just to "see what happens". Nothing was learned about the effect radiation had on the great stores of valuable material that was destroyed by fire or went down with the sunken ships. Far more scientific control, and hence more valuable information, could have been obtained by subjecting those materials to radiation in the laboratory, and at a fraction of the cost.

And speaking of expense, the navy said that the experiment would cost only about \$100,000,000. But others placed the cost more nearly where it belonged, around a half billion dollars. It depends on the bookkeeping system used. According to the navy the ships were junk.

Political Repercussions

The Evaluation Board said that "the test was well conceived and executed". And secretary of the navy, Forrestal, denied that it was a threat of war to the other nations. However, others doubt the sincerity of these statements. In fact, an atomic bomb test at a time when peace conferences are in order touched off a number of repercussions in different parts of the earth. Many observers see in it a theatrical exhibition before the world of the military strength of the United States. They see in it, too, a political move on the chessboard of international diplomacy.

The French press poked fun at the great publicity that was given this event. If it was a purely military experiment, why all the publicity? Is it customary for the navy to invite hundreds of newspaper reporters and radio announcers and representatives of foreign governments to witness military experiments at its proving grounds? Not at all. A French scientist said: "The American atomic bomb test in the Pacific is a miserable idea and a poor example to give the world."

The Italian Socialists paper said: "The atomic bomb is on a level with the evil deeds of the Nazis and places conquerors and vanquished on the same plane." Another Italian newspaper said that the test was the "most startling, monstrous and at the same time tragically grotesque experiment".

One British comment about the test comes from a member of Parliament. He was loudly cheered when he rose in the House of Commons and said: "Why choose innocent animals when there are so many guilty men available?"

Russian comment on the Bikini tests is worthy of note. "An aggressive gesture against all people of the world," said a Soviet newspaper. Another Russian writer commented about the fact that atomic energy for peaceful purposes is subordinated to military use.

Another commented on the fact that, although the bomb failed to sink all the warships, it, nevertheless, "fundamentally undermined the belief in the seriousness of American talk about atomic disarmament". It is a means of "black-mail that can be used against those who do not agree with, or submit to" the United States, is the foreign impression made. Even Russian scientists showed "profound anxiety at the fact" that atomic energy was being used by the United States, "not for the good of mankind but to its detriment as an instrument for oppressing and enslaving other peoples."

Not only abroad, but here at home, many people were and are opposed to such "experiments". Senator Huffman is quoted as saying that "the United States cannot escape the accusation that it is acting in a most unsuitable and hypocritical manner". Scientists too have opposed holding such sword-rattling demonstrations at a time when there is supposed to be a peace in the making.

America stands at a great vantage point in history because of her heritage, resources and skill, but she does not use these to inspire confidence in her ability to establish peace. Maybe the explanation for this deplorable condition is given by Dean Gildersleeve. She said, not so long ago, "We have been failing because our leaders and representatives have lacked brains that see the goal and think straight. They have lacked wisdom, and they have lacked courage."

Notwithstanding this unfavorable comment following the first test on July 1, preparations with dress rehearsals went on apace for the next one held on July 25. The admirals try to justify these "experiments" by saying that the data gathered will prevent another "Pearl Harbor". But as far as developing a defense against the atomic bomb Dr. J. Robert Oppenheimer, director of the atomic bomb laboratory at Los Alamos during the war, says: "There are

no specific counter-measures for atomic bombs."

It is for this reason that men like Oppenheimer and Urey who developed the bomb now fear it more than anything else. They see in these bomb tests the gathering of data for use by the militarists, and not for peaceful scientific use. The scientists say they labored under an illusion in developing the bomb in the first place. As one of them put it: "We thought the democracies would use it wisely to end the war to end all wars." But now they see that the atom bomb of the future will not have the killing power of 20,000 tons of TNT, as the one used at Hiroshima, but rather, an atomic bomb of the future will be equal to one or two million tons of TNT. Furthermore, these bombs will be relatively cheap when compared with other types of weapons. One estimate is that in the not-too-distant future an atom bomb will cost no more than \$1,000,000. More than two billion was spent developing the first one.

Those who see beneath the surface and think in terms of the third dimension find no peace of mind or consolation in the fact that these atomic tests are promoted by the militarists. Those who hope and pray for peace find no guarantee that such military leaders will establish a lasting peace through their bomb research. No, not when they read concerning the war-crimes trials in Japan that it was the militarists that set the stage and promoted the China incident that eventually embroiled half the world's population in a long and bloody conflict.

Atomic Age of Fear

Originally scientists were experimenting with atomic energy with the view in mind of using it for the benefit of man, but their efforts were diverted into destructive channels. Instead of spending hundreds of millions of dollars on a bomb test, why not spend a little in developing the peaceful possibilities of

atomic energy? Why not use it to cure skin cancer on a large scale? There are also many other applications for atomic energy that are now known. Up to the time of the war over 400 radioactive isotopes had been discovered. Why not develop their possibilities?

It is true, a few days before the first Bikini bomb was released the government finally made available a small quantity of atomic by-products for medical purposes. But in doing so they said: "It probably will be impossible to meet all of the demands of the country until additional pile facilities are built specifically for radioactive isotope production."

All right, why not spend some of the money that was sunk in the Bikini lagoon in building such piles? No! say the militarists, such "is not contemplated in the immediate future". Instead, they say that millions will now be spent in redesigning and improving naval vessels for the future.

Instead of perverting this valuable source of energy, as has been done in the mid-Pacific, why not use it for legitimate purposes? Why not, for example, heat a great city like New York next winter by atomic energy? It is claimed that the harnessing of the atom for the generation of power is already in the blueprint stage. Why, then, does the government not give such experimental work its full support and financial aid instead of giving it to some fish-killing, mouse-destroying, nation-frightening show of military might?

Does it not seem inconsistent for a nation to spend hundreds of millions of dollars on these admittedly military preparations for a third world war, and at the same time send its delegates to what is called a "United Nations" peace conference? And yet this is what is done, and both events are reported in the same newspaper. The United States finds herself in this ridiculous position because in reality she does not have

faith and confidence in the UN organization. She believes what Trygve Lie says: "The immediate job of the United Nations is to forestall actual war between nations." In other words, it is admitted that such factional organization can only delay war. If the United States, without faith in the UN organization, busies herself perfecting machinery for the next war, how can she inspire other nations to have faith that the "United Nations" will outlaw war?

Great fear has seized the rulers and the ruled. They admit the atomic bomb offers no guarantee against war, with the exception of the Vatican, which says that the atom bomb is more important as an instrument of peace than as an instrument of war. Imagine! Neither does the announcement that a method is being worked on for detecting an experimental atomic bomb explosion anywhere in the world give any comfort or peace of mind. It is a case of "men's hearts failing them for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth".—Luke 21: 26.

And so, driven by this fear, the nations prepare for war. Even while the preparations were going forward for the Bikini tests announcement was made that the United States had developed other terrible weapons besides the atomic bomb. Fear, too, was increased when it was disclosed that the Russians tried out an atomic bomb on December 18, 1945, that made obsolete the American type. From now on it is a race between these so-called "brotherly" nations whose foreign ministers sit around the peace tables while their scientists build bigger and better bombs.

If an atomic explosion is the greatest manifestation of power that man can produce, and yet it is only one-thousandth as powerful as a moderate earthquake, then the nations that have forgotten God should surely tremble and fear, for shortly now Jehovah God, the Almighty and Infinite One, will shake this earth with such destructive violence that the atomic bomb tests of Bikini will pale into insignificance.

Fixing Boundaries

THE sovereignty of a nation, as history shows, is no more secure than its borders. If its territorial boundaries are called in question a nation, to show its right, must display its might. "Might makes right," so they say, in this world of brutal force. For example: Wm. Philip Simms, editorial commentator of the New York *World-Telegram* once wrote:

"There is scarcely a frontier in Europe, it is pointed out, that has not changed hands half a dozen times in past centuries. Scotland could claim England or England claim Scotland, or Britain claim France or France claim Britain, or Rome claim everything, if you delve back far enough. Or Mexico might take back Texas, or Russia take Alaska, or France take Louisiana, or Spain take Florida, or the Indians take back Manhattan on the grounds that we had taken advantage of them when they were weak."

All the talk about satisfactorily securing the territorial boundaries of a so-called "brotherhood of nations" is sure to fail. For of a truth, "the earth is Jehovah's, and the fulness thereof" and present governments have no legal claim thereto. (Psalm 24:1, *A. & C. S. St. L. Ver.*) Consequently, territories of states and boundaries of nations will continue to change hands in the open market of international barter, the medium of exchange being diplomatic intrigue with force, until He who is the rightful Owner of the earth rises up at Armageddon and squashes all these "squatter" nations who presumptuously and arrogantly drew imaginary boundary lines on the earth's surface.

On the Religious Front

Prayer for the World

¶ The heads of all so-called "Christian" churches in Britain issued a call on July 28, 1946, for prayers on behalf of the peace conference at Paris, starting July 29. A statement signed by the archbishop of Canterbury, the Roman Catholic archbishop of Westminster, the moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland and the moderator of the Free Church Federal council said:

"The coming peace conference will mark another and important step in the long process of making the peace. The constant duty of Christian people is to be steadfast in prayer for the peoples of the world and for those who bear the responsibility of leadership among them. That duty is indeed recognized; yet, having in view the critical importance of the coming conference and of all to which it will lead on, we call upon all who put their trust in the will and grace of God to be instant in prayer at this time."

The following comment is immaterial to such political religionists, but it will gain the ear of those sincerely trying to be Christians, because their Leader, Christ Jesus, said it: "I pray not for the world."—John 17:9.

Catholic Priests War Criminals

¶ The Yugoslav Ministry of Information in Belgrade on July 26, 1946, said some priests had been executed in Yugoslavia since Tito took power, but "they were tried as war criminals, not as priests". A spokesman at the ministry said reports that Tito had launched a terroristic anti-Catholic policy were "old accusations renewed to coincide with the Paris peace conference". Religious rabble-rousers in democratic lands should remember, before they unleash their windstorms, that the Allies themselves are holding the Roman Catholic priest Tiso of Czechoslovakia, Catholic Hitler's puppet ruler, for trial in the war criminal dock.

Double or Nothing

¶ The following appeared in the New York *World-Telegram* on May 25, 1946: "Brussels, May 25.—A Belgian priest named Callewaert appealed from a sentence of six years' imprisonment imposed after his conviction for collaboration. The court of appeals today made it 12 years." Had the court read in the Bible God's judgment against such religious organizations as this priest serves, namely, "Double unto her double"?—Revelation 18:5, 6.

Consolidating Religion

¶ In a document of some 4,000 words, a basis for union of the Protestant Episcopal and the Presbyterian, U.S.A., churches has been officially submitted by a joint committee of the two bodies. The preamble to the proposed union reads as follows:

"Through the events of our time as well as through his revelation of his will in Jesus Christ, God is imperatively calling upon all who believe in him to become one flock under one Shepherd, so that the world may believe in its Creator, Redeemer and Sanctifier. All the churches stand at the bar of God's judgment. The unity of Christians is not merely a pious aspiration; it is essential if the church is to live and to fulfill its mission both at home and abroad. It is not remote from the needs of our age. Upon us the end of a world has come, and the events of the last decades have shown that unless the church becomes increasingly effective in human affairs as a united community of faith which transcends nationality, race and class, and therefore can hold divided groups in co-operation, further and more destructive ideological wars are inevitable."

The document shows that, finally, some religions have recognized that the end of the world is at hand. Their efforts to hold it together will surely fail, according to the Bible.

—————
"Associate yourselves, O ye people, and ye shall be broken in pieces; . . . Take counsel together, and it shall come to nought; speak the word, and it shall not stand: . . . Say ye not, A confederacy."—Isaiah 8:9-12.

An analysis of the musical merits of the "popular song", ragtime and jazz, plus a few observations on the vanity that often attends serious music

THE primary purpose of music is to bring praise to Jehovah God, as the Bible so abundantly testifies, and its secondary purpose is to delight and benefit man. It may well be termed the language of the heart, the speech of our emotions. When filled with superlative joy, intense longing or keen grief, words seem inadequate, and the soul breaks forth into song, in music. A case in point is the Psalms, which were originally sung, and which run the whole gamut of human emotion.

Not only is music the expression of the heart, but also food and even medicine for it. Man has a hunger for beautiful sounds just as he has a hunger and thirst for food and drink, for beauty that is visual, and for truth and knowledge. Music satisfies that hunger for beauty in sound. And music has been found to be good medicine for troubled spirits from the time physicians prescribed it for King Saul down to our day. Edison, some thirty years ago, made many experiments demonstrating the value of music in changing one's moods. It has been found that when sorrow depresses the heart, or bitterness, anger or resentment arises in the breast, the hearing of beautiful and cheerful music will help restore peace and calm. Because of this, good music is an aid to the Christian who seeks to have control of his mental disposition and to have his mind and heart filled with such things as are pure, honest and of good report. Such is particularly true of music written in praise of Jehovah God and about the joys of His service. But there are many different types of music, and not all have a good effect.

The "Popular Song"

About a hundred years ago in this country such men as Stephen Foster wrote songs that appealed to the multitude and which became very popular. Such were really folk songs, and are still popular today because they had both sincerity of thought and musical merit. However, about the same time, and more and more so as the years rolled by, another song was being composed, the "popular song". Its authors and composers were not men who felt the urge to give their fellows something beautiful and had the gift to do so, but were such as had but one concern, that of making money; and this they would do by catching the popular fancy with something seemingly new. For years they sentimentalized over the sorrows caused by the unfaithful lover, the drunkard father, the 'dead mother in the baggage car ahead', etc. Excessive weeping over the woes and wrongs of others brought a certain amount of emotional relief; the people enjoyed it, and so it was worked to the limit by these tune smiths.

When the country went to war the peddlers of this type of entertainment found it profitable to become patriotic, and so patriotism became the last refuge also of musical(?) scoundrels. When prohibition came along they sang of the "alcoholic blues" because someone had stolen their booze. Since then the popular songs have continued to deteriorate, until today they have reached an all-time low. The popular song is puerile, childish: "Shoo Fly Pie," "One-zy, Two-zy, I kiss You-zy; Two-zy, Three-zy, You kiss Mee-zy" ad infinitum, ad nauseam. It is vulgar: "I'm nobody's moo cow now; Sunken hips and fuzzy lips"; it is blasphemous in its references to God and

the Scriptures; it is filled with creature worship, idolizing "heroes" and romance; and when it is not brazen in its appeal to the desires of the flesh, it does so by means of the "double entendre", using seemingly innocent words to convey evil thoughts. It is told of a leading young lady in a Broadway musical, who had recently come to the "Great White Way" from Texas, that she actually cried when told the significance of the words she was singing. But she evidently soon got over her grief, as she kept on singing the words. The popular song reflects the mind of this world, a world under the control of the Devil and plunging headlong toward destruction.

Nor should it be thought strange that this is so. Today the writing of popular songs is a highly commercialized business, Big Business. Ability is so scarce that we often find three or more listed as "composers" of an inane melody, while a like number claim credit for the lyrics; the former being as ignorant of the grammar of music as the latter are of the possibilities of the English language. One on the "inside" of that business opined that the reason that no hits were emanating from "tin-pan alley" these days was that its composers never go hungry, they being well paid regardless of whether or not they produce!

Tin-pan alley. That place is well named, as one writer not so long ago observed: "Tin, the one metal that suits the dull reverberations of the passing song. Pan, the one instrument to send out its flat repetitions, its tiny monotony. Alley, not even a street. It is a place of crassness, of sentimentality and cynicism." No wonder they have to hire "pluggers" and bribe artists to bring their wares before the public!

Ragtime

What is ragtime? and where did it originate? How the name got its start is anybody's guess, not much being known except that when playing music

a certain way, they spoke of it as "ragging" it. One thing is certain, there was ragtime before it was called by that name. Ragtime is generally acceded to be syncopation. And what is syncopation? Well, it is a form of rhythm, and in music rhythm is the "regular recurrence of strong and light accents". Usually the stress falls on the first note of a bar of music, a secondary stress being given at the half-way mark, such as: ONE, and, Two, and; or ONE, two, Three, four. To get the effect of syncopation the stress is reversed, and we have: one, AND, two, And; or, one, Two, three, Four. By means of this novel use of rhythm, music has a spice, a piqnancy all of its own. Composers of "good" or serious music have kept this in mind and therefore use it very sparingly, it being found chiefly in musical novelties. Many of the advocates of ragtime point to this fact to argue that there is nothing wrong with ragtime. But in ragtime we do not have just the use of syncopation, but its abuse; it is syncopation ridden to death, become, as it were, a disease. In ragtime the rhythm is the all-important factor, melody, harmony and musical ideas being slighted for its sake. The overdoing of this novel form of rhythm has something exciting about it, and its effect upon the listener is to make him reckless.

To appreciate the difference between the use of syncopation by composers of serious music and of ragtime one might liken it to the use of alcoholic beverages. At dinner there may be a little Burgundy wine on the table to go with the steak. This may add to the enjoyment of the meal and also aid the digestion; for is it not written: "Wine maketh glad the heart of man," and, "Take a little wine for thy stomach's sake"? In moderation it serves a good purpose, and its actual volume as compared with the meal as a whole is very small. That compares to the use of syncopation in serious music.

Ent, tin-pan alley with its ragtime is comparable to the saloonkeeper who

keeps coaxing his customer on payday to have one glass after another of cheap whiskey, having an eye only on his own profits and not at all concerned about what happens to his customer's health and family. Or it may be likened to the reckless young set of today who imbibe a lot of liquor because it makes them feel "good", irresponsible, and arouses their amorous impulses.

This is easily appreciated when we remember that ragtime (not just syncopation) "harkens back to darkest Africa and is derived from tribal open-air exuberance". It was the music of savages, who, having no appreciation of melody, not to say anything of harmony, knew music only as rhythm plus noise. It served to give expression to their primitive instincts as well as to arouse them, and was always associated with dances having either a religious (demonic) or sexual significance. In fact, in many of the pagan ceremonies the two go hand in hand, even as recorded in the Scriptures regarding Baal-peor.

Those savages were highly skilled in their rhythms, some of the rhythms being so complicated that the white man could not imitate them. When kidnaped and sold as slaves to the cotton growers of the "Old South", they brought with them the beginnings of ragtime. Their skill in rhythm and sense of humor soon produced the Negro minstrel, that form of entertainment so widely imitated by the white man. It has been said that ragtime began with the Negro's restless feet, and that it is nothing more than a peped-up version of the Negro spiritual. It has been said that in his spiritual he yearns after God but in ragtime he yearns after the Devil; his spiritual being for Sundays, his ragtime for the other six days of the week.

When ragtime first took the country by storm, a prominent musical educator gave it a withering blast of invective, stating that it was, among other things, "the musical attitude toward life only

too familiar to us all. An attitude shallow, restless, avid of excitement, incapable of sustained attention, skimming the surface of everything, finding nowhere satisfaction, realization and repose. It is a meaningless stir-about, a commotion without purpose, an epilepsy simulating controlled muscular action. It is the musical counterpart of the sterile cleverness we find in so much of our contemporary conversation."

Viewed from a strictly musical standpoint, our critic of ragtime is correct, but in other respects his definition falls short. It is not without meaning and purpose save in so far as it is without a *good* meaning and purpose. This is supported by the testimony of welfare agencies who claim that ragtime and jazz have caused as many young people to go wrong as has liquor. Yes, ragtime is of, by, and for those who are bored and discontented, of whose lives it can be said, "All is vanity." But the music-makers must not be made to bear full responsibility for ragtime. Remember that music is the speech of the emotions, and if this old world's bosom is filled with sentimentality and restlessness, the musicians merely express it.

Jazz and Its Variations

"What is jazz? Is it an art, a disease, a manner, or a dance? Has it any musical value? After twelve years of playing jazz, I don't know." So, at one time, spoke the so-called "king of jazz". Some insist that jazz is not music, but merely a form or manner or method of playing music. There seems to be considerable argument in favor of this view, as any piece of music can be "jazzed up".

Jazz being the natural development of ragtime, it is not surprising to find that it too got its start with the African Negro transplanted to this country. While both New Orleans, La., and Memphis, Tenn., are mentioned as the birthplace of jazz, it seems that the latter has the better claim to this distinction.

History has it that a political candidate used a band of Negro minstrels in his campaigning, whose reckless and noisy playing and emphasis on rhythm so struck the popular fancy that their candidate was elected.

As a rule, these colored musicians who pioneered in jazz could not read a note, but played entirely by ear. Being naturally gifted improvisors (and that such is a gift cannot be denied) they could not resist the temptation to fly off on a musical rampage. Theirs was an outpouring, savage and exulting, noisy and unashamed, and was just what a world with the jitters, such as was the case in days of World War I and shortly thereafter, wanted.

Jazz may have first seen the light of day in Memphis, but its "blues" were, without a doubt, born in St. Louis. The blues are another instance of the abuse of a musical effect, and were also originated by our colored minstrels. In music we have the major and minor keys, the distinguishing feature of the minor being primarily the "flatted" third and sixth notes of the scale which tends to give it a "minor" or melancholy hue. In the blues the music is written in the major keys and is given a sad or wailing quality by repeatedly flattening the major third, the strongest note in the scale. Thus we have a music that is neither minor nor major, but a mixture of both. The Negro's use of this device can, doubtless, be laid to the fact that his lot was not a happy one. However, he had his sense of humor always with him, and in his blues we find both present. The popularity of the blues, no doubt, is due to the fact that the modern American likewise finds in it an expression for his discontent and longing.

As time went on jazz became more and more a science, shall we call it, for the public was ever wanting something new. This is particularly shown in its use of color and rhythm. In jazz, rhythm also gets the lion's share of attention; and,

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while it is generally associated with ragtime, it has reached the point of development where it is possible to have jazz without the use, or rather the abuse, of syncopation. How so? By the clever means of clashing two definitely and regularly marked rhythms with each other. There is no limit to the possibilities of novelty and excitement by such interplay of contrasting rhythms, in comparison with which ragtime seems rather tame.

True, composers of serious music also make use of this effect, as when a melody in waltz time is played with an accompaniment in common time, $\frac{3}{4}$ and $\frac{4}{4}$ time being played simultaneously. But here again, tin-pan alley does an effect to death for the many who crave novelty and excitement. Such use of contrasting rhythms requires a great deal of emphasis, and so we find that the rhythm section, with its banjos, bass fiddle (which is "slapped" instead of bowed), drums and the many traps, is the most important section in a jazz band.

In their quest for novelty and variety the jazzmen have not overlooked the possibilities of color, and most of their works abound in "loud" and clashing hues, although there are also some of a more subdued nature. In jazz the brasses reign supreme and undisputed, living up to the colloquial meaning of their name. In the symphony orchestra the brasses are used very sparingly, particularly the trumpets and the trombones; and even in a band, the brasses are employed as if ever aware that there are such instruments as the woodwinds (flutes, clarinets, etc.), which must also be heard. But in jazz the brasses blare to their heart's content, and for the sake of novelty mutes are used; producing an endless variety of effects, nasal, whining, etc., all in keeping with the jazz spirit.

However, the most distinctive instrument of jazz is the "moaning" saxophone.

This instrument has a color so different from that of other orchestra instruments that it ever calls attention to itself. It may be termed a brash and rugged individualist who refuses to merge his personality with others for the sake of harmony; which explains why repeated efforts to include it in symphony orchestras have been unsuccessful. Because of this, in most jazz bands they replace the strings and are harmonized to furnish the background for the trumpets, which effect can be and at times is pleasingly and skillfully used. As a solo instrument it also has some merits.

The quest for variety in color has brought forth "hot" and "sweet" jazz. Hot jazz is played by a raucous aggregation of instrumentalists and is the symbol of a world with the jitters which says, 'Let us eat, drink, and be jazzy, for tomorrow we die.' Some men drown their cares with drink; hot jazz helps others to do it with noise. On the other hand, "sweet" jazz is subtle and languorous, the language of sentimentality, of insinuation and double meaning. When the public got tired of one extreme, tin-pan alley turned to the opposite extreme, and today it gives out both.

Recent variations of jazz are "swing", "boogie woogie," "jive," the "jam session" of the "jitterbugs", etc. But regardless of the variation, they all fall into the same category of lawless expression so far as the rules of musical composition are concerned. As someone has well said, jazz is a "tripartite agreement [of melody, harmony and rhythm] to disagree, taking over in the one place [music] that was to be forever free from noise and confusion".

Concerning the spirit of jazz, none other than Paul Whiteman, the "king of jazz", wrote this indictment:

"I think it is a mistake to call jazz cheerful. The optimism of jazz is the optimism of the pessimist who says, 'Let us eat, drink and be merry, for tomorrow we die.' This cheerfulness of despair is

deep in America . . . Behind the rush of achievement is a restlessness of dissatisfaction, a vague nostalgia and yearning for something indefinable, beyond our grasp, . . . that is the thing that is expressed by that wail, that longing, that pain, behind all the surface clamor and rhythm and energy of jazz . . . It is the expression of the soul of America."

But, is there nothing good about the popular song, ragtime and jazz? Have our jazzmen and their associates produced nothing but chaff, filth and poison? It would hardly be fair to put it that strong, yet, compared with the quantity that they produce, that which has merit is so small as to be negligible. Occasionally there is a melody, a musical work, a popular production that gives evidence of true beauty. Such a notable exception is Gershwin's "Rhapsody in Blue". Another composer who may also be singled out is the late Jerome Kern, some of whose melodies have been likened to folk music.

Vanity in Serious Music

In justice to all it must be admitted that there is much vanity associated with serious music. Not all serious and so-called "good music" is of worth and merit, deserving to live. Those old boys, known as the "great masters", they also had to make a living; and so they also had to furnish musical compositions on demand, even though they were without new musical ideas at the time. And if jazz is associated with one form of religion that incites passion and hits wide of the mark of the purpose of music, serious music is very much contaminated with another form of religion, creature worship, and lands wide of the mark in other respects. Most of its devotees bow at the shrines of "great" composers, "great" artists, both vocal and instrumental, and "great" conductors, give them reverence and speak of them with bated breath, at the same time affecting

a disdain for the "ignorant and unlearned" multitude who do not join them in their "worship". And much of serious music is composed for the very purpose of eliciting such homage, being written so as to exhibit the skill of the artist. Such indicates a woeful lack of understanding not only of the purpose of music, but also of the fact that no creature is to be singled out for praise and elevation on a pedestal.

All of which brings home the fact that with music, as with everything else that affects man, a proper evaluation of it must be made. There are plenty of compositions that have the right kind of appeal, folk music, light classics, serious music (when not taken too seriously), and not to overlook the *Kingdom*

Service Song Book. The Christian is not craving excitement, he is not bored with life, he does not think that the height of living is "self-expression", lawlessness or selfish enjoyment; but he knows that the real joy and satisfaction comes from knowing Jehovah God, learning about Him, and in doing His will. There is much joy, delight and satisfaction in such things, and if we are but wise enough to feed on them we shall find true contentment. And such things carry with them the promise of an eternity of blessings in Jehovah's righteous new world where mankind will enjoy real music, while the indulgence of the base stuff this world has to offer ends with death. Is it not true? Time will answer, Yes.

Africans in a World Upside Down



In a world where so much is upside down, the Tuareg warriors of the Sahara enter with a few more complications which are perhaps best described by stating, with reservations, that the men are the women and the women are the men. Elsewhere in the Arab world, and these people are Bergers who are under Arab domination, the women, until recently, wore veils, while the men exposed the beauties of their own countenances to the light of day. Yet among the Tuaregs the women wear no veils, but the men wear either dark-blue ones or white ones, leaving visible only the eyes and the tips of their noses; and this makes the men either "black" or "white" Tuaregs, though the actual color is a reddish yellow. The tall, well-built women are famous for their beauty and their intelligence, and because, in various parts of the world, it is easier to determine who are the mothers than the fathers, the Tuaregs trace their family descent in the female line; the community is run by the women and they own all the property except the men's clothes and weapons.

Some more contrary things have come to light regarding African men and women. Emperor of Ethiopia, Haile Selassie, has decreed that nobody may convert a member of the Ethiopian Church to any other belief, except in certain open areas, such as Addis Ababa, where people may believe as they wish. That sounds as if Haile had come down to the level of the Roman Catholic Hierarchy. The Hierarchy does not want anybody to believe anything except what they tell them, this to keep the stream of "purgatory bribery" intact. Haile's idea is to keep them in check, so that they won't connive with some future Mussolini to grab his country again and churchify it a la Vatican.

In Africa the wages of the natives are impossibly unfair. In America, at the outbreak of the war unskilled labor, enclaved, was receiving twelve-fifteenths as much pay as skilled labor, while in South Africa the poor natives were receiving only one-seventh as much. There is nothing even remotely fair in such discrepancy. Instead of sending missionaries to the natives, why not send a few to those that hire them?



Left to right: First row: Fountain, E., Ethridge, R. L., Gough, L. M., Good, F. E., Arnold, J., Thompson, L., Crum, D., Burdohan, A., Frazier, S., Kolodziejczyk (Kolesky), S., Gillman, M., Thiede, M., Benanti, C., Kornstett, M.

Second row: Smith, V., White, E., E., Johnson, R. E., Herring, L., Hess, M., Gentili, E., Romano, A., Balamontis, M., Waterfall, E., Green, L. M., Ulman, L., E., Patrick, M., Brooker, V., Good, E. W., Weiler, M., M.

Third row: Esposito, A. R., Brown, E., Hoffman, Z., Hauke, E., Ulrich, R. L., Love, G. A., Bailey, E., Toelk, M., Broad, M., Bley, M., Krueger, F., Phelps, M., Jackson, R., Foster, L., Manning, E., Gregory, D.

Fourth row: Atkinson, G., Allen, J. P., Arnold, E., Smedstad, H., Mann, C., Krueger, E. F., Merlau, E. F., Boyd, D., Rhyne, R. W., Alpicio, L., Esposito, R. M., Gentili, A., Brown, O. R., Romano, J., Leckso, A. P., Voigt, E.

Fifth row: Reed, J., Phelps, F. H., Broad, E. S., Benanti, C., Jackson, A., Pinch, H., Thiede, D. R., Hartinan, D. D., Barber, N. H., Manning, W. M., Richards, R. W., Hauke, E. O., Pinch, P. J.

Sixth row: Patrick, E. W., Posey, J. V., Kern, G. S., Kovalak, N., Gillman, H. B., Silva, M. da, Brown, P., Oja (Mariyla), A., Voigt, W. E., Wiens, I. F., Skelarick, N., Chmilkis, M., Tutte, D. L., Hodgeson, E.

Seventh row: Brubaker, T. B., Bruton, J. G., Martin, D., Frazier, L. M., Burdohan, M., Sparek, W. G., Farmer, D. W., Bailey, G. B., Forrest, H., Brooker, G. B., Allen, P. A., Hoffman, A. M., Herring, D. J., Jaracz, T., Thompson, R. D.

The Watchtower School's Seventh Class

ON A wintry day in February, 1946, the seventh class of the Watchtower Bible School of Gilead started on its way of five and a half months of intensive ministerial training for foreign missionary service. Fifty-eight men and 47 women comprised the class of 105 full-time ministers that had been called in for special training. The passing months saw winter crowded out by spring, and that delightful season in turn give way to summer. The fleeting term of joy and hard work had sped by and now the students stood on the threshold of July 28, graduation day. The elapsing time had piled up in the minds of the students many memories as well as much knowledge, memories of days spent at Gilead that will endure as a rich treasure. Once the instructors of the seventh class were humorously charged with committing something like that described at Revelation 9:5, which reads: "And to them it was given that they should not kill them, but that they should be tormented five months." But in earnest tone others spoke of their school days at Gilead as a foretaste of harmonious living in Jehovah's new world.

On Sunday, July 28, before an audience of 1,100 friends, relatives and guests, occurred one of the most pleasant graduation exercises ever conducted at the Watchtower School of Gilead. Let the event be briefly told in the words of one of the graduating students.

Now the eventful day has come. Graduation day! Many relatives and friends have come from all parts of the United States and even some from foreign lands to witness the graduation of the seventh class of Gilead. The day dawned with a clear sky and preparations were made to hold the exercises outside. At 9:00 a.m. the sun beamed down on the assembled body in front of the main building. After a song and a few opening words by President Knorr of the Watchtower Society,

the Society's Branch servant from England, A. P. Hughes, spoke to us with heart-warming words of encouragement to continue steadfast in Jehovah's service. Then the Farm servant, J. C. Booth, and the four school instructors, each in turn, gave us sincere admonition to push ahead with greater zeal in the work of helping the nations to be glad with Jehovah's people.

For the next hour the Watchtower School president, N. H. Knorr, addressed the assembled students and friends on the subject "Whose Witnesses Are You?" In this discourse we were enabled to first look at the religious viewpoint of being a witness of Christ Jesus, and then to look at the Theocratic viewpoint of being a witness of Jehovah. By logical reasoning on many scriptures pertaining thereto, we were able to see clearly that we should follow the example set before us by Christ Jesus and be witnesses for Jehovah.

The speaker then addressed the students impromptu for a few minutes, explaining the work that is ahead. He pointed out that a diploma did not alter one's position in the Lord's sight. It was what each one had in his heart that counted. Those students who had reached a certain standard set by the school were then presented diplomas, together with a class picture and their report cards. Also the Lord provided a gracious gift to aid the students to get to their next assignment.

For all these things we give thanks, and it was aptly expressed in a resolution presented by one of the graduating students. This resolution set forth our determination to continue faithful in whatsoever territory we are sent. It was seconded and unanimously adopted.

Of the 103 students who graduated, 93 did so with sufficient merit to receive a diploma. But by the Lord's grace all of the 103 graduates of the seventh class will conduct themselves meritoriously in their assigned fields for gospel-preaching. The picture of this class appears on the facing page.



His Majesty the Onion

FOR many years the onion was considered a social outcast of the vegetable kingdom, and was ridiculed as a food for commoners. Today it is respected and honored in the fashionable circles of high society as the most savory of vegetables. No longer considered a vagabond, chefs and cooks recognize the onion as a "blue blood" among vegetables.

Having a regal lineage, the onion's antiquity dates back to the dawn of history. In ancient India, China and Japan the onion was highly esteemed, but A. de Candolle regards it as a native of Western Asia. At any rate it is definitely known to be among the earliest cultivated plants and was represented on the Egyptian monuments. One inscription found on the Great Pyramid of Egypt tells of 1600 talents' being expended for onions, radishes and garlic for the laborers. And in man's oldest history book, the Bible, we find onions mentioned by Moses more than 1500 years before Christ.

The onion dynasty, lying between the two botanical boundaries leeks and garlic, has many ranks of nobility. There is the "potato" or "multiplier" variety, which has two or more "cores" or "hearts", each of which is able to send up leaves. If separated, each "heart" will produce a new compound bulb. Then there is the "top" or "tree" variety, which is peculiar in that it develops not only flowers but also bulblets at the top of the flower-stem. In America are the strong red onion, the milder yellow onion, and the white variety, which is the mildest of all. However, the American varieties are all stronger than either Bermuda or Spanish onions.

It is not surprising to find that the onion, like other aristocrats, has many enemies. There is a parasitic disease that will sometimes sneak up and spread over an entire field of onions, and it is not easily controlled. Several species of cutworms, which seem to know and like their onions, are best "cured" by special poisoned baits. Then there is the onion thrips, a tiny sucking insect that delights to puncture onion leaves, causing them to turn yellow. The little fellows seem to like best the climate in Bermuda; and so the farmers down there fix them up a tonic of emulsified kerosene, which gives the thrips eternal rest.

Probably the most troublesome of all is the onion maggot, which hatches out of a certain fly's egg that is laid close to the young onions in the early spring. Upon hatching the maggot goes for the onion bulb like a moth for a light bulb, but, being more successful, he burrows into the bulb and soon snuffs out its life.

The onion's foes are not limited to the lower forms of life, but even among mankind there are those who despise the onion because of his forwardness in thrusting his odoriferous personality (his "B.O.") upon others about him. Nevertheless, when this overbearing ego of the onion is suppressed in a soup or stew, then foes become friends.

Those that belong to the exclusive 'Society of Onion Friends' tell of the glories of this vegetable. They say that it is a good purgative and will cure many ailments; that it "is rich in calcium, iron, phosphorus, potassium, sodium, sulphur, magnesium, chlorine, silicon and iodine". Chemical analysis shows that it is 87.6 percent water.

The onion's greatest friends, however, are the culinary artists of the kitchen. From the lips of chefs and cooks the onion's praises are sung the loudest. In soups and salads, in sauces and stews, this distinguished vegetable is heavily relied upon as a condiment of exquisite flavor. Long live the kingly onion!

Mysterious Movements of the Eel

TEN THOUSAND years or more before the first man walked upon this earth God created the lowly eels. He set them in their order and gave them fixed laws to govern their kind. So marvelous are those laws that even today, after years of diligent scientific research, man is unable to explain how they operate. Man's accumulated data only demonstrate how fearfully and wonderfully even eels are made.

This autumn you may, perchance, observe some of these mysterious movements of the eel. In the stream or pond near your home you may notice an eel that has exchanged its customary greenish-brown dress for a silvery white coat. Take a good look at that eel, because only once in its lifetime does an eel thus change. It is an indication that shortly it will depart, never to return again.

Those who have studied the habits of these creatures which are technically called fish will tell you that this silver-colored eel is a female that has decided that she is old enough to have a mate, being somewhere between 12 and 20 years of age. But those who explain this to you will not be able to tell what causes this sudden change. That is one of the mysteries.

There are no male companions in the vicinity, none in any of the fresh-water streams or ponds, but this does not discourage these lady eels. Clothed in their glistening wedding gowns they set sail for the sea of matrimony, which in this case is a litoral sea, the Sargasso sea. Nor does the fact that this sea is thou-



sands of miles away deter them from undertaking the trip. Even if the little pond they live in is landlocked they will get there just the same. How they know enough to fill their gill chambers with a twenty-four-hour supply of water and set out to travel overland by night in search of a stream is another mystery. But they will, if necessary, for somehow they know that all streams are supposed to eventually flow into the ocean. Somehow they know that in those salty waters they will find their mate that has never tasted fresh water, but has patiently waited many years for them to come down. Once they reach the ocean no one knows by what remarkable means these two newlyweds set their compass so as to reach the Sargasso sea, which lies south of the Bermuda islands, off the Atlantic coast of North America. That is another great and unsolved mystery.

Dr. Johannes Schmidt, a Danish scientist, who spent a good deal of his life studying the habits of eels, finally figured out their life cycle. It was he that discovered that the millions of silver-colored eels that annually go down the streams of continental Europe, as well as the streams along the east coast of North America, find their mates in the brackish coastal waters. Of course, there are large numbers that never reach the ocean, due to the fishermen's eel traps and nets that are set to intercept their voyage. Some 3,000,000 pounds of eel, valued at \$250,000, are annually taken

out of the streams from Maine to Florida.

After more years of study Dr. Schmidt found that the honeymoon resort of all these eels, of Europe and America, was in the deep, not too chilly waters lying between Bermuda and the West Indies. There on the ocean's floor hundreds of feet beneath the surface of the water a mother eel lays between 5,000,000 and 10,000,000 eggs. A hen would have heart failure to even think of it. An unfathomable mystery lies in the bottom of that Sargasso sea, for, though it is known that this is where they spawn, yet during all the years of search investigators have never been able to find a single mother or father eel in those waters, dead or alive.

After an unknown period of incubation these eggs hatch out into tiny, leaf-like, transparent larvae, which reach a length of approximately two inches by the end of the first year. They feed on microscopic organisms. Gradually these larvae wiggle themselves toward shore, so that by the time they are ready to undergo their change from the flat, leaf-like larvae stage into the long, pipe-like eel shape, they are in the tidal waters and coastal estuaries into which the fresh-water streams flow. Elvers is what they are called after their change.

The European eels are related to the American type, yet they are a separate and distinct species. The eels from that continent have more backbone than the American variety. They average from 111 to 118 vertebrae; American eels, only 104 to 110. Though these two distinct species breed in the same general locality, they never cross. Another difference between the European and American eels is the fact that it takes the European eels three years to change into elvers, whereas the fast American eels take only one year.

Now the greatest mystery of the eel's whole life cycle is found in this larvae stage. It is observed that the European

and American larvae overlap each other in the Sargasso sea, and in their early life they live together in the same waters. But what instinct makes the European larvae travel toward Europe and the American species in the opposite direction is something that cannot be explained. If the American larvae set out for a European tour they would change into elvers in mid-ocean, and that would be suicide. Behold, then, the infinite wisdom and majesty of the Creator even in these small details!

It is amazing, too, to observe that when these larvae reach the coastal waters and turn into elvers at the end of their first or third year, as the case may be, the males proceed no farther than the coastline, but remain in the briny water to play among themselves as they grow to maturity. But the females start up the fresh-water streams to find new homes in the mud and under the rocks in the lakes and ponds and rivers where their mothers once lived. Some people even claim that daughter eels return to the very spot where their mothers lived, there to begin eating where she left off two to four years before. But who teaches them to go around the dams or over mountains to reach an upper lake, say, in the Swiss Alps? That is one of the many secrets of God.

If, now, this fall you would catch a silvery eel and restrain it in captivity until its urge for matrimony is past it would turn back into its common, unattractive greenish-brown color. Becoming sterile it would lose all desire to return to the sea of its nativity and would be content to remain in its fresh-water home until it grew large and sleek and fat and of a ripe old age. Such is the life of the fresh-water eel.

Besides these species of eels there are many others that inhabit the unknown regions of the seven seas. There are at least seventeen families, which are divided and subdivided into hundreds of species, each having a distinct individual-

ity, each having mysterious movements of its own. Some that inhabit the coral reefs of the tropics are no larger than a thread. The Conger eel found off the coast of New England is from four to eight feet long and weighs from 50 to 100 pounds.

Then, there is the famous electric eel found in the jungle rivers of Brazil. The phenomenon of this eel is most mysterious and shocking. It has two pairs of storage batteries beneath its skin that contain about 240 cells capable of generating high-voltage currents sufficient to kill large-size animals, even knocking down a man. Records have

shown that one of these mysterious powerhouses no longer than eight inches can discharge 110 volts, and a three-foot electric eel can discharge 500 volts. Little is known as to how this current is generated or discharged. It has a secret patent all its own.

It is little wonder that people in the olden days, knowing nothing of the mysterious movements of the eels, thought they originated from soaking horsehair in water. Even today an understanding of what governs the migratory habits of these creatures cannot be grasped, but is itself "as slippery as an eel".



Did the Ancients Use Electricity?

THE archeologists were puzzled, some ten years ago, when Wilhelm König of the Iraq Museum dug up a queer vessel in the ruins of Khujut Rabu'a, southeast of Bagdad. Made of pottery, the jar was about six inches high and contained a copper cylinder, closed at the bottom, on the inside of which was an iron rod. Asphalt around the top showed that the iron and copper were insulated from each other. Thereafter, in the excavations at Tel'Omar four jars, three of which had similar cylinders, were discovered. Later twelve more were unearthed in the same place, and in another place still others were found.

During the years before World War II German scientists had come to the conclusion that these jars were an ancient type of galvanic battery similar to that devised by the Italian physicist Volta, a century and a half ago. The *Technology Review* made these observations:

Though the matter must remain pure speculation, the circumstantial evidence is rather complete. Dr. König was authority for the statement that there still exists in modern Bagdad a primitive art of electroplating with

zinc, the origin of which is obscure. Numerous examples of ancient Parthian bowls and vases of copper, plated with gold and silver, are also to be found. No one has ever before discovered how the plating was done. Since one metal can most easily be deposited upon another, especially a dissimilar one, by electric current, it is a fair assumption that the ancients not only knew of electricity but understood how to make it and use it. The question of a suitable electrolyte would not have been difficult. Both acids and alkalis were probably then known.

After Willard F. M. Gray, of General Electric, heard about these discoveries and their possible use as batteries, he decided to build an exact replica and see if it would work. He used an electrolytic solution of copper sulphate and found that the cell worked perfectly.

As a consequence it will be necessary for the encyclopedias to revise their discussion of electricity, wherein they claim that the physician to Queen Elizabeth, William Gilbert of the sixteenth century, is deserving of "the title of founder of the electrical science". The ancients also were smart enough to use electricity.

Martin Luther on the Soul Question

THE large majority of Americans, whether they attend church on Sunday or not, are Protestants, but great numbers of them have forgotten the most important of the doctrines that Luther discovered when he turned to an honest study of the Bible. It is the doctrine that the soul is not inherently immortal and will attain everlasting life only on condition of faith, and the obedience which is of faith. The idea that the soul, which is man himself, is immortal and cannot die, regardless of whether one is good or bad, is a heathen conception entirely foreign to the Scriptures, and was introduced into the "Christian religion" some hundreds of years after the death of the apostles. Luther quickly realized the truth on this subject and so wrote:

The dead are insensible. They lie, not reckoning days or years, but when awakened will seem to have slept scarcely a moment.

They [the dead] lie in a profound rest and sleep, to the day of judgment, not knowing where they are. . . .

All that is said concerning the immortality of the soul is nothing but an invention of antichrist to make his pot boil . . .

I permit the pope to make articles of faith for himself and his faithful, such as . . . the soul is the substantial form of the human body, the pope is the emperor of the world and king of heaven and God upon earth, the soul is immortal, with all those monstrous opinions to be found in the Roman dung-hill. . . .

Blackburn, writing concerning Luther's stand in this matter, said plainly:

Luther espoused the doctrine of the sleep of the soul upon a Scriptural foundation; and then he made use of it as a confutation of purgatory and saint-worship, and continued in that belief to the last moment of his life. Luther was clearly and indisputably on the side of those who maintain the sleep of the soul.

Cardinal Due Perren says:

Luther denied the immortality of the soul, whence he drew an argument against praying to saints, showing that the saints hear not our prayers . . . Luther reckons this among the impieties of the Roman Church, that she believes in the immortality of the soul.

Luther came to this conclusion on an incontrovertible basis, that of the Bible itself, which says, clearly:

The living know that they shall die: but the dead know not any thing.—Ecclesiastes 9:5.

In death there is no remembrance of thee: in the grave who shall give thee thanks?—Psalm 6:5.

The soul that sinneth, it shall die.—Ezekiel 18:4, 20.

What man is he that liveth, and shall not see death? shall he deliver his soul from the hand of the grave?—Psalm 89:48.

The dead praise not the Lord, neither any that go down into silence.—Psalm 115:17.

There is no work, nor device, nor knowledge, nor wisdom, in the grave, whither thou goest.—Eccl. 9:10.

Then there are the numerous texts which speak of the dead as asleep, which show that Luther was right in this matter, and the Papacy quite wrong. To cite only a few:

David slept with his fathers, and was buried in the city of David.—1 Kings 2:10.

And Solomon slept with his fathers, and was buried . . . —1 Kings 11:43.

He saith unto them, Our friend Lazarus sleepeth.—John 11:11.

When [Stephen] had said this, he fell asleep.—Acts 7:60.

Them also that are fallen asleep through Jesus will God bring with him.—1 Thessalonians 4:14, *An. Stan. Ver.*, margin.

And so throughout the Scriptures, the dead are shown to be asleep, awaiting the resurrection in God's due time. And Luther knew it.

"THY WORD IS TRUTH"

JOHN 17:17

Enemy Defeats by God's Spirit

THE spirit is the invisible energy which Jehovah God sends forth to accomplish His will and His work by means of various earthly creatures upon which this spirit operates. Living creatures have a life-force in them, but this life-force, which also flows from God, is different from the aforesaid active force or invisible spirit which operates upon creatures in addition to their life-force. This fact is manifest in the instance where the money-loving prophet Balaam was riding forth to pronounce a curse upon Jehovah's chosen people. Suddenly he had trouble with his riding mount. It was due to the ass's eyes being miraculously open to behold "the angel of the Lord standing in the way, and his sword drawn in his hand".

Balaam beat the poor animal. Finally, being unable to turn out of the angel's way, the ass "fell down under Balaam: and Balaam's anger was kindled, and he smote the ass with a staff. And the Lord opened the mouth of the ass, and she said unto Balaam, What have I done unto thee, that thou hast smitten me these three times?" To Balaam's reply, the ass said: "Am not I thine ass, upon which thou hast ridden ever since I was thine unto this day? was I ever wont to do so unto thee?" When Balaam answered No, then the Lord opened Balaam's eyes to see what the ass saw. (Numbers 22: 22-33) The spirit of invisible force of God was that which came upon this ass and caused it to do the miraculous, to speak and reason with Balaam. This was different and distinct from the life-

force or the spirit of all flesh which remained in the dumb animal after the power of speech by God's spirit left it.

Shortly afterward Balaam's prophecy was an example of where God's spirit irresistibly prevailed over what an unfaithful prophet wanted to say against God's people and turned an intended curse into a blessing. Although he was bribed to make a try at cursing Jehovah's nation of Israel, and although he hired himself out to the heathen king Balak for that purpose, nevertheless Balaam warned this king, saying: "Lo, I am come unto thee: have I now any power at all to say any thing? the word that God putteth in my mouth, that shall I speak." "And Balaam lifted up his eyes, and he saw Israel abiding in his tents according to their tribes; and the spirit of God came upon him. And he took up his parable," and delivered it in King Balak's hearing.—Numbers, chapters 22-24; Nehemiah 13: 2.

Another case of where the spirit of inspiration came upon the enemies of God's favored people in order to defeat the purpose of the wicked is that of King Saul. When the whereabouts of the outlawed David were reported to Saul he sent three successive bands of messengers to capture David, the giant-killer. But in the case of each band, when they came and "saw the company of the prophets prophesying, and Samuel standing as appointed over them, the spirit of God was upon the messengers of Saul, and they also prophesied." Then King Saul went himself. "And he went thither to Naioth in Ramah: and the

spirit of God was upon him also, and he went on, and prophesied, until he came to Naoth in Ramah. And he stripped off his clothes also, and prophesied before Samuel in like manner, and lay down naked all that day and all that night. Wherefore they say, Is Saul also among the prophets?"—1 Samuel 19: 18-24.

The reason why that came about was this: When Jehovah God rejected King Saul for his stubborn disobedience, a man after God's own heart was sought for. That man proved to be the shepherd David, and God sent the prophet Samuel to give David the sign of his commission from God to be the future king. "Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the midst of his brethren: and the spirit of the Lord came upon David from that day forward." Simultaneously, "the spirit of the Lord departed from Saul, and an evil spirit from the Lord troubled him." (1 Samuel 16: 13,14) Certainly the removal of God's spirit from Saul left only room for a contrary spirit to control him. God sent an evil spirit upon Saul indirectly, in that he gave him no encouragement and His dealings with the anointed David stirred up in Saul the spirit of jealousy, bitterness, despondency, and fear for his kingship and royal line. Hence God was not responsible for Saul's wicked attempts to kill David. As for David he was a changed man from the day of the coming of God's spirit upon him after his anointing. (1 Samuel 10: 1, 6) It was with that divine spirit upon him that he went out single-handed to take up the giant Goliath's challenge and defiance of Jehovah. It was by the spirit of Jehovah God that David succeeded in making the lumbering giant bite the dust. "The battle is Jehovah's," David shouted out, as he moved into combat with Goliath.—1 Samuel 17: 40-54.

There were other manifestations even earlier than this of where Almighty God's spirit or active force worked for

the enemy's defeat. At the close of seven years' oppression by the heathen Midianites and their allies, Jehovah God raised up a man of faith and devotion, named Gideon, to act as judge and deliverer of his nation of Israel. The record is that God's spirit fairly clothed him or enveloped him to move him into action against the enemy. "The spirit of the Lord came upon [clothed] Gideon, and he blew a trumpet; and Abiezer [the house of Gideon's father] was gathered after him." The utter rout of the Midianite invaders resulted closely after that. (Judges 6: 34, margin) A like expression is used concerning the fighter Amasai, who led a faithful band to the hide-out of David in the wilderness. When David asked if they came peaceably, "then the spirit came upon [clothed] Amasai, who was chief of the captains, and he said, Thine are we, David, and on thy side, thou son of Jesse: peace, peace be unto thee, and peace be to thine helpers; for thy God helpeth thee." (1 Chronicles 12: 18) The like clothing or envelopment of a person with God's spirit is recorded concerning Zechariah the priest, at 2 Chronicles 24: 20, marginal reading.

Jehovah's spirit of inspiration was upon faithful prophets of old to sound warning to those who became God's enemies by breaking their covenant with him. As to this Nehemiah said: "Yet many years didst thou forbear them, and testifiedst against them by thy spirit in thy prophets: yet would they not give ear: therefore gavest thou them into the hand of the people of the lands." (Nehemiah 9: 30) Of this same fact Zechariah says: "Yea, they made their hearts as an adamant stone, lest they should hear the law, and the words which the Lord of hosts hath sent in his spirit by the former prophets: therefore came a great wrath from the Lord of hosts." (Zechariah 7: 12) The spirit of inspiration came upon Daniel to interpret the dream

of Babylon's emperor, Nebuchadnezzar, and also the handwriting on the wall of Nebuchadnezzar's grandson Belshazzar's palace. Hence those heathen monarchs spoke of Daniel as one "in whom is the spirit of the holy gods". (Daniel 4:8, 9, 18; 5:11, 12, 14) Today the handwriting has appeared upon the wall of antityp-

ical Babylon, particularly religious Christendom, and God's spirit has enabled His witnesses on earth to interpret and to publish its message of doom to Christendom and to all of Satan's wicked world. The enemy will yet be made to recognize that Jehovah's spirit has been upon His witnesses.

Bromides Are Killers



SOME time ago the Federal Trade Commission made an investigation of "over the counter" medicines containing bromides. These included such products as Bromo-Seltzer, Capudine, Stabback, and headache powders such as "B.C.", as well as nostrums that are widely sold for the cure of nervous pains and "hangovers". The government's purpose was to force manufacturers and advertisers to properly warn the unsuspecting public of the dangers and habit-forming properties of these products.

Many medical authorities and specialists were called in to testify before the commission, but the public press said very little if anything about the matter. And little wonder, since newspapers and magazines receive a large revenue from the manufacturers of these products. However, the *Industrial Leader* of Winston-Salem, N.C., published some of the very enlightening information brought out at this FTC hearing.

Excessive use of bromides will cause what is known as "bromide intoxication", producing severe mental derangement. Mental symptoms of this are sluggishness to think, inability to concentrate, failure of memory, irritability and depression. Physical symptoms are skin rash, staggering and trembling, and a slurring of the speech. Most bromides also contain acetanilid, another habit-

former, which if used in excessive amounts will break down the blood and result in anemia. If its use is carried far enough heart failure results.

Dr. Max Levin, a psychiatrist and authority on the subject who had had a distinguished career in medical colleges and hospitals for the insane, testified before the commission. At the time he was serving as a major in the Army Medical Corps, and as a typical example of the habit-forming effects of bromide addiction, he cited the following:

A woman takes a bromide to relieve insomnia, nervousness or anxiety. She notices a certain relief. She does not know it is poison. She goes ahead and takes more and more bromides.

Too much bromide makes her more irritable—unable to concentrate. She takes more bromide to relieve these symptoms, and so on in a "vicious cycle".

Bromide produces an intoxication which, in turn, misleads the victim into taking more bromide.

There are thousands of victims in the insane asylums as a direct result of misusing bromides. Dr. John T. Cuttino, after testing 1,947 mental patients, found that 6.6 percent of the men had used bromides excessively; while the figure for women was more than twice as many, a staggering 14 percent. The average for the 1,900 cases ran around 10 percent. Insanity brought on by the extended use

of bromides is similar to that produced by the excessive use of alcohol, sleeping tablets of the "barbital" type, and various narcotics derived from opium.

Now, then, what was the outcome of this revealing investigation? Although the Federal Trade Commission was fully convinced of the death-causing power of these products, yet it was helpless to put an end to the evil practices. Neither the F.T.C. nor any other government agent can stop the sale of these dangerous compounds, nor are they able to force the manufacturers to put adequate warnings on the labels for the protection of the public.

Summing up its article, the *Industrial Leader* explains how ruthless and vicious commercialism of this old world is and what little regard they have for the lives and health of the people.

The bromide business is big business, running into many millions of dollars a year, and the F.T.C. has a hard fight on its hands. The

manufacturers apparently do not care how many people are crippled, driven insane or killed by their products, as long as the profits roll in.

Daily newspapers are saying nothing about these hearings. The bromide manufacturers are big advertisers.

Therefore, educate the people. Replace the oratory of smooth-tongued radio announcers who advocate in honeyed words the taking of bromide "at the first sign of a headache" with some tough, straight-forward talk about the bitter facts of bromides. The results will be that the sale of such products will go down. And with their going down will also go down the number of those committed to insane asylums.

As it is now, the only warning given is, "Caution—Use only as directed. If pains persist see your doctor." Better would it be if they said, "If pains persist see your undertaker."

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Jehovah's witnesses' Assembly
◆ Though not of the world, Jehovah's witnesses are in the world, and their periodic national and international assemblies are events that attract much attention. The Glad Nations Theocratic Assembly of Jehovah's witnesses at Cleveland, Ohio, at the Municipal Stadium, August 4-11, was one of such events. Present at this convention were witnesses from all over the world, including many that had been in concentration camps and prisons for their firm stand for freedom of worship. The attendance increased from about 50,000 present the first day to more than 80,000 on the last day. Sessions were devoted to consideration of world events and Scriptural subjects of present-day significance and importance. Cleveland's population was served by the conventioners' calling upon them at their homes with Bible-study helps and invitation to the public lecture by President N. H. Kuor on the subject "The Prince of Peace", delivered on the last day of the assembly.

Peace Conference Opens

◆ After the protracted deliberations of the Big Four nations' representatives in the Foreign Ministers' Councils, the first peace conference of World War II convened on July 29, at Paris. The Australian represent-

ative made it known that the conference would not consent to being a rubber stamp to Big Four decisions. He insisted that full democratic methods be used. There are expected to be many committees. The 1919 Paris peace conference developed no less than 58 such committees to handle details. The main task before the present conference is to make decisions with respect to the peace treaties with the five so-called "satellite" nations of Finland, Hungary, Rumania, Yugoslavia and Italy. Action on Germany and Austria will be deferred for consideration by the Big Four later in the year. The conference, while it gives the smaller nations a chance to be heard, will only be advisory.

World Church Parley

◆ An International Conference of Church Leaders convened at Cambridge, England, August 4-7, under the sponsorship of the World Council of Churches. The United States was represented by twelve prominent churchmen. Only Protestant and Eastern Orthodox churches participated. The object of the conference was to make the influence of the participating religious organizations felt in world affairs. Jesus' statement that neither He nor His followers were of the world seems not to have been considered. One of the delegates, Prof. G. Harkness, of North-

western University, Evansville, Ill., compared the position of the churches to that of a clergyman caught in a fire. Something must be done swiftly, Dr. Frederick Nolde, of Philadelphia, said: "Effective work in the political field demands the use of more than pious phrases." Co-operation with the Roman Catholic sect was discussed, but no action taken. A commission was set up to "make the voice of the Protestant and Eastern Orthodox Churches heard to international political and economic questions".

Palestine Crisis

◆ Palestine troubles came to a head in the blasting of the King David Hotel in Jerusalem. The hotel contained the headquarters of the British army in Palestine as well as the offices of the secretariat of the Palestine government. The entire west wing was wrecked, and more than ninety persons were killed. The casualties included high British officials and a number of Jews and Arabs. Zionist terrorist gangs were hunted in the most exhaustive search the British have ever instituted. Tel Aviv was placed under a twenty-two-hour curfew, allowing householders only two hours to get provisions and return to their homes. A communiqué states that 466 persons have been taken in for further questioning. The British government is determined to find the criminals and to wipe out the terrorist gangs.

Tel Aviv's great synagogue was found to have arms stored in its basement, as well as counterfeiting equipment and forged Palestine government bonds, whose par value totaled almost a million dollars. A second cache of arms was found in a school maintained by the very orthodox Mizrahi organization. Private homes were found to contain 186 wooden box mines and 478 bombs and grenades of various kinds. Another place yielded almost 300,000 rounds of ammunition, also grenades.

A "government fortress" has

been constructed in Jerusalem by barricading nearly half of the city with barbed wire. Haifa was the scene of disorders because of the detention and deportation of unauthorized Jewish immigrants. Many of these are being taken to Cyprus.

Meantime Egypt, which is also interested in the Palestine situation, joined with Iraq in placing the question before the United Nations Assembly, which will meet in New York September 23. These two governments are understood to be acting also on behalf of the five other Arab states, Syria, Trans-Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Lebanon and the Yemen. They hold that the existing situation in Palestine discriminates against the Arabs, contrary to the United Nations charter. They want a regime that will enforce immigration restrictions.

An Anglo-American committee has submitted a report on the question recommending a federalist constitution for Palestine, dividing it into Arab, Jewish and central Government districts.

Arabs Appeal to Pope

On August 3 a delegation of Palestine Arabs called on the pope to ask for his intercession in the Palestine situation. The pope said he was above all partiality. (Perhaps that explains why Roman Catholics can fight on both sides of any war that comes along.) He delivered himself of some platitudinous exhortations, exhorting the violent Jews and Arabs to avoid violence. He also stated that "we also deplored repeatedly in the past the persecutions that fanatic anti-Semitism unleashed against the Hebrew people". (Yet it always has a Roman Catholic source!) Usually the pope's speeches appear in the Vatican *L'Osservatore Romano* immediately, but for some reason the speech on Palestine was not published until nearly two weeks later.

Pope Intercedes for Nazi

Arthur Greiser, former Nazi

Gauleiter of Posen, was condemned to die for sending hundreds of thousands of persons to their death. He appealed to the pope to intercede for him, in the hope that he might escape execution. The pope did so, claiming, however, that Greiser had been an arch foe of the church; and that the pope was following the example of Jesus, who prayed for His enemies, "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do." There is no record that Jesus' enemies asked Him to pray for them. The pope's application of the surnions words is too limited as well as too ostentatious.

Bishop Resents Nazi Hunt

Bishop Theophil Wurm, of the Evangelical Church of Germany, objected to the use of denazification laws against clergymen who had been involved in the Nazi movement. He said that it was merely a political mistake on their part. He stated that he himself thought the Nazi party might promote a religious revival. "I see no reason," he remarked, "why Christianity should not play a role in forming political parties. Indeed, such a party is at hand. Its first word begins with 'C.' He referred to the Christian Democratic Union, which is mainly Catholic.

Yugoslavia Denies

Murdering Priests

A report coming from Italy on July 23 charged that Marshal Tito's government in Yugoslavia had embarked on a program of assassinating priests and nuns, 230 priests having been put to death over a period of two years, many of them without a trial. Eleven nuns were also said to have been shot. The priests and nuns were charged with having co-operated with fascists. The report also says that the reprinting of catechism books is forbidden and that the crucifix has disappeared from the walls of schoolrooms.

All these reports were em-

phatically denied by the Yugoslav regime, which claimed that some priests had been war criminals and were executed for that reason. Many of the Catholic priests fought on the side of those who opposed the government and were killed in battle. It was asserted, too, that at a concentration camp under the supervision of a Catholic priest named Ivan Majstorovitch, 800,000 persons were killed. The priest was executed as a war criminal. A spokesman for the Yugoslav Information Ministry said: "Neither this, nor any other cases of criminals being brought to justice, can be twisted into stories of religious persecution."

Mikhailovitch Executed

July 17 witnessed the execution of Gen. Draja Mikhailovitch of Yugoslavia. In 1941 he organized the first Yugoslav resistance to the German invaders, when, in April of that year, he fled to the mountains with his band of guerrillas to harass the Germans. In 1943 the National Liberation Movement developed in Yugoslavia under the command of Marshal Tito; and the British, who had been backing Mikhailovitch, switched their support to Tito. Mikhailovitch would not co-operate with the Liberation Movement and became an outlaw, though he denies having ever co-operated with the Nazis. He was, nevertheless, found guilty of collaboration with the enemy, and sentenced to be shot, with eight others. Neither the United States nor Britain interceded on behalf of the former Chetnik leader, and the sentence was promptly carried into effect.

Baptists in Russia

The president of the Southern Baptist Convention, Louie D. Newton, of Atlanta, stated that there are between 1,500,000 and 2,000,000 members in the Baptist denomination in Russia. Dr. Newton was visiting Russia with a delegation of seventeen,

at the invitation of the Russian Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies. He said religious services in Russia are as free as in any Baptist church in the world.

Demand Break with Franco

◆ On July 17 103 Laborite Members of the British Parliament signed a letter issued from the House of Commons and urged the government "to take action through the United Nations to assist the Spanish people to regain their freedom". The industrial part of the labor movement joined in the move to have the government break off diplomatic relations with Franco. The Trades Union Congress issued a manifesto to that effect. July 18 various left-wing groups in Europe observed the tenth anniversary of the outbreak of the Spanish civil war and demanded the ousting of Franco, whom they accused of preparing a new war, with British and American co-operation.

Moslems Reject

Independence Plan

◆ The Moslems in India have withdrawn from their original agreement to accept the British cabinet mission's long-term plan for Indian independence. For the first time in the thirty-eight years it has been in existence, the All-India Moslem League has decided to follow a course of "direct action". The League claims that the basic principles laid down in order to enable the major parties to join the Constituent Assembly are not being followed. At a meeting of the League on July 29 many Moslems publicly renounced their British titles, to show their distrust of British motives.

Bolivians End Dictatorship

◆ A student and worker revolution against the Bolivian dictatorship of Villarroel has installed Nestor Guillen as provisional president. Villarroel was assassinated. He came into power by violent means two years ago. A free press has now been

restored. Political prisoners will be liberated, and exiles are invited to return to Bolivia. The dictatorship's interference with freedom of the press was the direct cause of the revolution.

Pearl Harbor Investigation

◆ Pearl Harbor was the scene of the greatest disaster in American military history. It has been under investigation by Congress to determine who was responsible for the unpreparedness of the Americans. The hearings took seventy-one days, and the committee heard forty-four witnesses. The testimony totaled 5,630 printed pages. The main conclusions that the majority of the committee arrived at were that (1) the ultimate responsibility for the attack rests upon Japan; (2) the president and other high government officials made every effort to avert war with Japan; (3) the Oahu (Hawaii) commanders erred in failing to place their commands on the alert in view of warnings from Washington; (4) the war department failed to make sure that the Hawaiian department had been properly warned. The minority report, signed by two Republican senators, said that (1) the messages from Washington were not sufficiently definite as to the need for alertness; (2) President Roosevelt was responsible in that he failed to enforce co-operation among the secretary of war, the secretary of the navy, the chief of staff and the chief of naval operations with a view to dispatching clear orders to the Hawaiian commanders.

Second Bikini Bomb Test

◆ The second postwar atomic bomb explosion, the first to be detonated under water, took place on July 25 beneath the waters of Bikini lagoon. Premature detonation was prevented by the use of a time-clock arrangement. A huge waterspout, a mile high, resulted from the explosion. Early reports indicated ten warships were sent to the bottom,

including the battleship Arkansas, close to the point of the explosion. The aircraft carrier Saratoga, more than a half-mile away, was also sunk, besides five submarines and three smaller craft. Two battleships, a carrier, a heavy cruiser, a destroyer and a transport were badly damaged.

Atomic By-Product Sold

◆ The first sale of an atomic by-product was made at Oak Ridge, Tenn., when the United States government's \$2,000,000,000 atomic research plant sold a milliecurie (a mere speck) of radioactive isotopes at \$400 to a private hospital for use in cancer research.

Caribbean Earthquake

◆ August 4 witnessed a violent earthquake in the West Indies, the Dominican Republic being hardest hit. Another quake occurred four days later. Tidal waves struck coastal towns and caused much damage to buildings, besides leaving behind at least 73 dead and 20,000 homeless persons. The earthquake was of exceptional force.

Applications for UN

◆ Nine countries have made application for membership in the United Nations organization. They are Albania, the Mongolian People's Republic, Afghanistan, Trans-Jordan, Iceland, Ireland, Siam, Portugal and Sweden. The Communist-influenced government of Albania was called upon to answer a questionnaire to determine its eligibility for membership. Greece objected to its admission because of alleged support of the Axis. China recommended postponement of consideration of the application of the Mongolian People's Republic. Any of the Big Five members of the Security council can veto a membership application. Among other things, nations must be "peace-loving" to be admitted to the United Nations.

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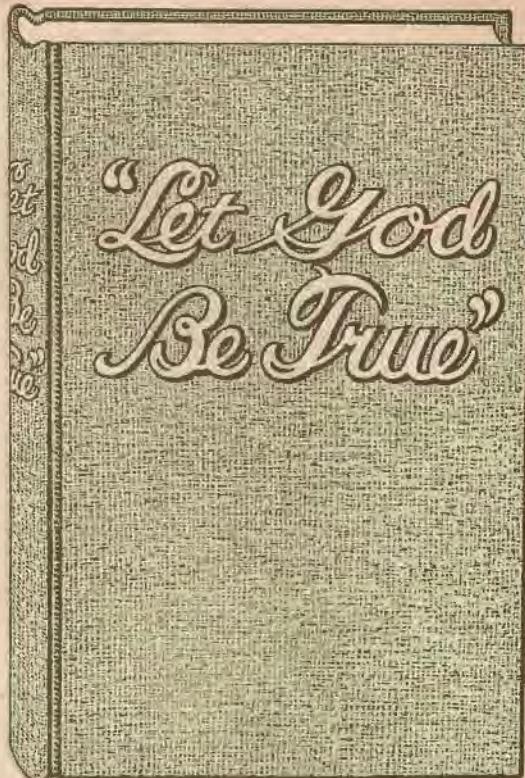
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