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The Golden Age

OLD
WORLD
DYING

a Journal of fact
hope and courage

Vol. VI Bi-Weekly No. 143
March 11, 1925

THE DAY OF
PETROLEUM

THE EDISON
QUESTIONS

THERE IS NOTHING
COVERED

PALESTINE AND
CALIFORNIA

RAPTURE OF
THE ANGELS



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NEW
WORLD
BEGINNING

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The Golden Age

Volume VI

Brooklyn, N. Y., Wednesday, March 11, 1925

Number 143

The Day of Petroleum

SO-CALLED scientists have wearied themselves in the effort to account for the presence in the earth of great quantities of petroleum which occupy so important a part of the world's activities and the world's news at this time.

They have tried to tell us of the origin of oil, and have evolved five theories, some of which are partly right and some of which are evidently wholly wrong. For instance, one of the theories is that the intense heat of the interior of the earth, coming in contact with water, turns the water into steam. Inasmuch as steam occupies seventeen hundred times the space of a given quantity of water, the thought is that this steam, broken up, forces its way into cracks and crevices, the gas gets thicker and thicker, and ultimately becomes a fluid mineral oil. All this is very foolish.

If these scientists would give a little real, reverent attention to the Bible, they would find the origin of petroleum plainly hinted at in the very first chapter of the Book. The creative days of Genesis agree perfectly with the findings of geologists that vegetation preceded the higher forms of animal life.

The Bible as well as the geologists agrees that in the third creative day vegetation was extremely rank. Mosses, ferns, and vines grew immensely larger and more rapidly than now; for the atmosphere was full of carbonic and nitrogenous gases, so full, in fact, that breathing animals could not then have lived.

Plants which now grow only a few inches or a few feet high even at the equator, then attained a growth of forty to eighty feet, and sometimes two or three feet in diameter, as is demonstrated by fossil remains. Under the conditions known to have then obtained, their growth not only would be immense, but must also have been very rapid.

At this period the coal beds and petroleum deposits were formed. Plants and mosses, having a great affinity for carbonic acid gas, stored up within themselves the carbon, while purifying the atmosphere for the animal life of the later epochs. These vast peat-bogs and moss-beds were repeatedly covered by upheavals and depressions of the earth's surface, by tidal waves and further descending rings of the material held in suspension, resulting in the various strata of coal, clay, sand, limestone, etc., as we have them today.

History of Petroleum

IT IS plainly evident from the foregoing that petroleum is composed of the fats and oils once contained in plant and animal life. We say animal life also, because it must be remembered that the first animals on the earth were of prodigious size, suited to the vegetation on which they fed. Their remains are more or less clearly marked in connection therewith.

It is possible that Adam knew of petroleum and used it in the Garden of Eden. It is certain that the "slime" used in building the Tower of Babel contained partly evaporated petroleum. One of the greatest oil deposits of the world is in Mesopotamia, where the tower stood; and it is found that the oldest buildings uncovered in that part of the world are bound together with that form of binder.

When Sodom and Gomorrah were destroyed, the Lord used the oil-bearing soils, still present and still undeveloped in the vicinity of the Dead Sea, to overwhelm the doomed cities. The text which states that Moses was deposited in a little craft lined with pitch was the very thing that led the Standard Oil Company to locate the oil deposits since found in Egypt.

Petroleum was known and used in the time of Alexander the Great, the present Baku, Rus-

sian, field supplying the oil. Oil was also obtained in Sicily, and burned in the Temple of Jupiter about the beginning of the Christian era.

On the American continent the aborigines excavated pits along the waters of Oil Creek, Pennsylvania, near where Oil City now stands, the purpose of which must have been to collect oil. These pits are six to eight feet square, and are sometimes as much as twelve feet deep, lined with heavy timbers, and are always along streams where natural seeps of petroleum existed. The medicinal properties of petroleum were known to the American Indians and the Persians before America was discovered.

History of Oil in America

THE discovery of petroleum, upon which civilization at present so much depends, was purely accidental. Our forefathers needed salt and used it. They dug deeper and deeper for it, being often discouraged because the brines they obtained were spoiled by the black, oily liquid with disagreeable odor which so often came along with it.

In 1859, which is now but sixty-six years ago, Edwin L. Drake, near Titusville, Pennsylvania, brought into existence the first oil well ever drilled. He struck oil at a depth of seventy feet. Oil wells are now sometimes sunk as deep as 3,000 feet to obtain the same results.

The cost of drilling an oil well is \$50,000 to \$75,000. The area drained by each well is about five acres. The oil is principally found in sand, which seems to be its natural container. It is believed that the best of wells never extract more than thirty-five percent of the oil, the balance being unobtainable.

Old wells are sometimes re-shot nowadays, and with fairly good results. The powerful explosives now in use stir things up so effectively in the oil-bearing strata that good flows of oil can be obtained in wells that had been abandoned as dry, or played out.

It is remarked that salt water seems to have an affinity for oil. Oil men claim that salt water sometimes chases oil for miles and miles through various formations, until finally it is pressed into some closed sand structure from which it can not escape, resulting in an oil deposit. Few oil wells are sunk now without preliminary advice from trained geologists.

Importance of Oil

THE wheels of diplomacy at present are all running in oil. Every international conference is proof of this, even though none of it may appear on the outside. The "Literary Digest" says:

"It lurks in the background of virtually every problem now engaging the attention of world statesmen. European politics have become the politics of petroleum. Almost no move is made on that chessboard where Prime Ministers disport themselves with fates of nations that is not tinged with oil."

British papers are fond of referring to Mr. Hughes as the United States Secretary for Oil, but their own secretaries have an even better claim to the title. They have done their work with such characteristic British cleverness that Sir E. M. Edgar declares that Britain has cornered the oil supply of the world, and that in ten years the United States will have to buy every year five hundred million barrels of oil from British traders.

In a work entitled "The Great Betrayal" Mr. E. H. Bierstadt declares:

"The trail of oil leads not only through the doors of the Department of the Interior and into the Navy Department, but straight to the Department of State as well. Naval reserve oil, Mexican oil, and Mesopotamian oil are all threads of the same web. Touch one, and the rest will quiver."

Mr. Bierstadt declares that it was the lust for oil that caused Great Britain, the United States, France, Russia, and Italy to betray Greece and to cripple the great philanthropic investment in Turkey. It was their aim, so he maintains, to control the oil resources for the next war, and so dominate the Near East peninsula. But he adds that "whichever nation gets into the lead will have the others on its trail like a pack of wolves".

The real secret of the unbending hostility of the United States Department of State to a recognition of the Soviet arrangement in Russia is declared to rest in the fact that the Standard Oil Company bought out the Swedish Nobel Oil Company interests at Baku, Russia (the largest oil field in the world); and that the Soviet refuses to recognize the claim, but insists on keeping these richest oil wells for the benefit of the Russian people.

Wasting What We Have

WHILE other governments and other countries are making desperate efforts to get and to hold oil deposits, Uncle Sam seems bent on squandering every last pint that lies beneath the soil anywhere between the two oceans. We do not refer merely to the Teapot Oil Dome and other naval reserves. The rush to get the oil out of the ground and to turn it into money is characteristic of the land where the object of worship of nearly all the people is really and truly the Almighty Dollar.

Whenever a crowd of highwaymen manage to steal a million dollars there are a million reasons, in the minds of certain lawyers and judges, why nothing but honor should be bestowed upon them. It has been so with the Teapot Dome and other naval reserve oil leases. Without doubt the man who made the leases was told that he would be protected; and he has been, and will be. The Government has made three attempts to prove criminality regarding these leases; but the courts nullified one of the attempts, and for some reason or other both of the other attempts failed. Meantime, the oil which really belongs to the people is being given away, to all intents and purposes.

The pouring of the people's oil into the market, together with a rush on the part of other producers to pump their oil out before some neighbor should get it, has led to a surplus of oil in the last two years, which means a great loss to the country as a whole.

Surplus oil is considered a white elephant. It requires expensive containers, and the loss from evaporation is high. When stored in open tanks, the most valuable part of the oil is lost by evaporation. How much more sensible to let the oil remain where the Lord put it, until it is needed!

The effect of the situation is that the United States is now providing about seventy percent of all the oil used in the world, and yet has in reserve only about twenty years' supply, while other nations have seven times as much. The annual production of oil is now worth four times all the gold produced in the world.

Distribution of Oil

WE HAVE before us a map showing the distribution of the oil deposits of the world. It shows that oil is to be found in almost every

country in the world. Examining the map more closely, we may outline twelve gigantic fields or areas which seem to be impregnated with oil:

1. A belt a thousand miles wide and three thousand miles long on the axis of Tampico, Beaumont, Shreveport, Cairo, Fostoria, and Quebec. The seaboard, except Nova Scotia, seems to be without oil.

2. A belt fifteen hundred miles wide and four thousand miles long, resting on Cairo and the Persian Gulf and extending north to the Arctic Circle, on the axis of Mosul and Baku.

3. A belt twenty-five hundred miles wide and five thousand miles long, including the Dutch East Indies, Philippines, Japan, Sakhalin, Korea, China, Burma, and Siam.

4. A circular belt two thousand miles in diameter, including Rumania, Algeria and all the countries between, to and including the British Isles.

5. A belt five hundred miles wide following the eastern edge of the Rocky Mountains four thousand miles to the mouth of the Mackenzie River, from the northern edge of New Mexico.

6. A narrow belt two thousand miles long, from the tip of Southern California to the shores of Puget Sound.

7. A circular belt fifteen hundred miles in diameter around the edges of the Caribbean Sea, on all sides.

8. A narrow belt three thousand miles long on the axis of the Andes, the whole length of South America.

9. A belt a thousand miles wide and upwards of three thousand miles long, including all of New Zealand and Tasmania and the southern and southeastern shores of Australia.

10. A narrow belt twenty-five hundred miles long, from Liberia to Angola on the West Coast of Africa.

11. A narrow belt fifteen hundred miles long, from Victoria Nyanza to the upper part of Madagascar. A similar belt in northwest India.

12. A belt of undetermined width stretching across southern Alaska and the extreme northeastern portion of Siberia.

Scientists do not like the idea that the world's supply of hydrocarbons is being used for fuel. These may sometime be needed for food. A gusher may be spectacular, thrilling and awe-inspiring; but to the scientist it is a calamity, a dreadful waste.

The increased use of fuel oil is killing off millions of fish that now can not come near the cities which they once visited in search of food. The greatest cause of oil pollution is the discharge into the harbors of water that was stored in empty oil tanks for ballast. The British do not allow the dumping of this oily water inside the three mile limit. The Japanese do not allow it to be dumped at all. They save and use it.

Petroleum in Shales

SCOTLAND has been a producer of petroleum for seventy years; but the oil comes from shales, from which it is obtained by roasting. It is believed that these oil-soaked shales are nothing more nor less than clays impregnated with countless bodies of fish, which were caught in the descent of the various rings that once surrounded the earth. In many places the shales bear evidence of the remains of millions of fishes.

The Scotch shales contain about twenty-five gallons of oil to the ton. Similar shales are widely scattered over Australia, Russia, and other countries. In the United States there are billions of tons of such oil-soaked shales, some of them containing as high as ninety gallons of oil to the ton.

The roasting of shales is expensive. It requires an expenditure of about one and one-half million dollars for the construction of a plant before a dollar's worth of oil can be obtained. Hence the present method of drilling for oil will probably continue here as long as oil is obtainable by that method.

But when the pool oil gives out, it may be safely asserted that there is enough shale oil left to last at least a thousand years, so geologists tell us. Shale oil is produced in Sweden and Germany, as well as in Scotland. The Germans are also taking petroleum from coal.

Some Western Fields

ONE of the most startling discoveries in any western field was that obtained by the Imperial Oil Company in August, 1920, when a sixty-foot gusher of high grade oil was struck at the mouth of the Mackenzie River, near the Arctic Circle.

Geologists consider this one of the most promising fields in the world. There is said to be a large area in which the liquid oozes from the banks of the rivers, and spreads over the surface of the streams so thickly that it can be ladled in cups. In some places fires have been burning for years, where some oil-bearing rock has been struck by lightning.

In the summer of 1921 there was a great rush of prospectors into the Mackenzie River field; but as the location is eleven hundred miles from the Peace River Crossing, the nearest railroad point, and the intervening country is a wilderness, the Northwest Police restrained many who would have entered. None were permitted to go who were not well equipped.

Throughout the summer of 1921 prospectors were carried by airplane from Peace River Crossing to Fort Norman, eleven hundred miles, at a fare of \$1,000; and at that time the airplanes engaged in the service were booked for a year ahead. It will take time to build a pipe line over those eleven hundred miles.

The Mexican constitution of 1857 provided that the oil and mineral lands of Mexico should forever be the property of the Mexican people, never to be granted or sold to anybody. Every foreign concern doing business in Mexico knew of the existence of this constitution.

But Mexico has had its Teapot Dome statesmen, the same as America; and hence it comes about that back in the eighties a Standard Oil man from Ohio who knew how to speak Spanish got into the Mexican cabinet, in the post of minister of finance; and the rest was easy.

Senior Enrique Creel, otherwise known in Ohio as Henry Creel, made all kinds of grants to various crowds of financiers who wanted Mexico's oil. But he seems to have forgotten to tell them that it would be the decent thing, for shame's sake, to pay something in the way of taxes for stealing what neither one of them had any right either to give or to take.

Anyway, with a show of holy indignation, the taxes were withheld from year to year, while our patriots at Washington were indulging in oil-soaked oratory about our duty to clean up Mexico. But in 1923 the idea suddenly seemed to break through their minds that it might be a good thing to pay something, after all. Since then Mexico has been comparatively quiet.

Farther south, it is interesting to note that as far back as 1692 the people of Peru were wrangling with one another over the petroleum rights of their country. This fact shows that oil is not so new as some have thought.

Some Eastern Fields

THE same Sinclair that trimmed the United States so beautifully in the Teapot Dome lease undeniably has the money and the brains of a certain sort necessary to get what he wants in the way of oil concessions. In 1923 his companies were given rights for a period of thirty-six years over an area of 500 square miles in the Russian island of Sakhalin; and a year later the Persian government gave the same corporations ninety million acres of undeveloped land, constituting what was then reported as the largest undeveloped oil field to be found in the world.

The oldest oil field in the world, namely the Mesopotamian-Persian-Russian field, is undoubtedly the richest field in the world, and is more or less at the bottom of all the disturbances in the world regarding Turkey, Armenia, Palestine, Russia, etc.

Before the World War Germany had an ambition to have an oil-burning navy; and all her diplomacy was directed toward linking together all the countries from the North Sea to the Persian Gulf, so that she could get at the Mesopotamian oil without interference. During the war this result was actually achieved at one time.

It seems that in June, 1914, the Grand Vizier at Constantinople wrote a letter to Baron von Wagenheim, then German ambassador at that city, conveying to the Baron's so-called Turkish Petroleum Company the right to exploit the Mesopotamian oil fields. The Vizier forgot that five years previously he had given the same right to Rear Admiral Chester of the United States Navy, acting for the Standard Oil Company.

Now see what happened. As soon as the war was over, the great British statesman, Lord Birkenhead, declared that the oils of Mesopotamia were rich enough to pay for the war twice over. When he said this, he was figuring that the Vizier's letter to the Baron constituted

Britain's *carte blanche* to go ahead, inasmuch as Britain had whipped Germany.

But it so happened that early in the war Britain had promised France secretly that she should have the oil; so when the trouble was over France claimed what was coming to her. Then came one of those famous conferences of Europe's benevolent diplomats, at San Remo. When they got through talking, France was to get a quarter of the oil, the Dutch a quarter, and Britain the rest. The United States and Turkey were to get nothing. Then it was that the world at large began to hear in earnest of the so-called Chester Concessions, Standard Oil's share of the plunder. The foregoing is a brief outline of the real reasons why France backed Turkey in the Greek campaign in Asia Minor.

The struggle for possession of the Mesopotamian oil fields is a struggle for the future wealth that is to come from those regions. At present the oil wells of Mesopotamia are merely shallow pits, the same as those which the Indians used in America hundreds of years ago. The oil is dipped from the pits by hand. It is said that the natives are suspicious of modern methods of taking away their oil. Is not that strange?

The New York "Nation" sums up the situation nicely in a paragraph when it says:

"Admiral Chester's concession in Turkey is as orthodox a forward step in imperialism as could be conceived. It grew out of an expedition for the protection of missionaries; it includes oil, copper, iron, and railroads; it conflicts with claims advanced in behalf of the subjects of two other Great Powers, and has about as many possibilities of international squabbles hidden away in its clauses as could possibly be tucked into a single document."

Before the death of the Russian premier, Lenine, he expressed the belief that the expected Armageddon would be fought over petroleum.

American Oil Items

AS HAS been already stated, the United States produces almost three-fourths of the world's oil, and Mexico almost one-fourth. The remaining production is principally in Russia, Persia, Dutch East Indies, and Rumania, with lesser outputs from India, Peru, Galicia (Po-

land), Sarawak, Venezuela, Argentina, Trinidad, Japan and Egypt. The remaining output is small.

Texas has been fairly reeking with oil since the Beaumont gusher in 1900. During the past five years the craze has spread all over that large state, with the odd result that oil has been found almost everywhere. The people of Texas went crazy. Lawlessness became rampant. Prices went up 100 percent. No one was safe on the streets after dark. Oil from a new well is always tasted, to detect salt; for salt water quickly ruins an oil sand.

Prospectors in the Olympic Mountains, Washington, are trying to locate a lake of oil, which is known to be there, but the location of which the Indians are unwilling to reveal. From time immemorial the Indians in the vicinity have been using cedar sticks soaked in oil for fuel and light.

Standard Oil Company

NO ARTICLE on the petroleum industry would be complete without some reference to Standard Oil, which made the industry what it is today. It can not be denied that for efficiency, progressiveness, far-sightedness, and the ability to come out right side up from any difficulty into which it may be plunged, the Standard Oil Company stands at the top.

No one seems to know who is really the master genius back of this colossal enterprise, or series of enterprises. All that is known, as one Wall Street observer expressed it, is that "it is like a giant centipede, whose legs are ever in perfect lockstep, but which has no visible body to guide them." In 1911 The Standard Oil Company was dissolved—on paper.

The market value of the holdings of John D. Rockefeller, Jr., in the nine companies that

once made up the Standard Oil Trust is set at \$410,764,399; and his income from these holdings about \$12,000,000 per year. But he is not considered an oil man, and his father is virtually out of all the companies.

Transportation and Heating

SEVERAL of the railroads of the West have used oil-burning locomotives for many years. It was but natural that the water-borne commerce of the world should turn to the same fuel. Oil has some disadvantages, however, namely, fluctuations in price, uncertainty of supply, and fire risk. But these are offset by the fact that an oil-driven ship requires only one-third as many firemen and travels about twenty percent faster than a coal-driven boat. There is a low first cost of equipment, no smoke, small storage space required, small amount of refuse, quick response to overload demands, and no banking losses. Bunkering can be done quickly in any kind of weather and at any time of day. Uniform steam pressure can be easily maintained, reducing the deterioration of boilers. Oil can be carried in nooks and crannies, between double bottoms, and in other places where neither coal nor cargo can be stored. In case of a storm beneficial results are obtained by pouring oil overboard on the weather side of the ship. A year ago there were about 3,110 oil-burning vessels afloat as against 501 in 1914.

Oil heating-plants are being rapidly installed in apartment houses, some 15,000 having been placed in Chicago alone. In New York, however, which is accustomed to smokeless hard coal, the oil has been found to deliver an oily, smutty grime all up through the building; and in numerous places the oil plants have been pulled out, and coal is again doing the work.

Rumania's Revolution From Editorial Page, New York *American*

ACCORDING to Prince Antoine Bibesco, Minister of Rumania to the United States, there has been a new law passed in Rumania.

By virtue of this law, land which has hitherto been held under the control of a few great landlords, has been turned back to the actual farmers themselves.

The Prince said that he lost 20,000 acres by the law, but is glad to lose them, for the people have benefited.

According to *The Broadcaster*, this is just another way of adopting the Jubilee arrangement of the Jews, under which every fifty years land reverted to its original possessors.

Bits of News from All Over the World

[Radiocast, with other items, from Watchtower WBBR on a wave length of 272.6 meters, by the Editor]

Substitute for Sunlight

DURING the winter months the children of London are so starved for sunlight that in certain sections it is now the custom to expose them for a number of minutes each day to the rays of light emanating from long-flame arc lamps. It is found that the ultra violet rays of these lamps afford a partial substitute for sunlight, in their healing properties.

Deaths in Airplane Accidents

EIGHT persons were killed the day before Christmas, when one of the London to Paris airplanes suddenly took a nose dive a few minutes after it had started for Paris. When the machine struck the ground, the gasoline tank burst, the flames rose sixty feet in the air, and all occupants were instantly burned to a cinder. There are no lingering deaths in airplane accidents.

Duke of Norfolk Loses \$20,000,000

THE inheritance laws of Britain have cut \$20,000,000 out of the Duke of Norfolk's estate, leaving him only a beggarly \$30,000,000. He has had to rent out all his ducal palaces and even his London home to some of the Pittsburgh crowd, and to travel so that he will not have to go to the expense of entertaining. It is very sad to be a Duke. But it will soon be over.

Modern Dresses Injure Royalty

REBECA WEST, of the London *Daily News*, the first woman reporter to write up an opening of Parliament, thinks that the pale shades and flimsy materials of modern dresses do not nearly so well fit the scheme of royalty as the stiff brocades worn by the old ladies with silver hair. Speaking of these modern dresses she says:

"It gives a curious effect, the packed crimson of the peers' robes in the centre and this periphery of pale colors and insignificant textures. It reminds one of the petals of a dying flower, faded and curling at the edges."

St. Paul's on the Quicksands

ST. PAUL'S Cathedral, in London, is gradually settling and cracking to pieces. "It was built upon the sand." Various schemes have been

tried during the past fourteen years, and are still being tried, to strengthen the pillars which support the great dome. The amount now needed for this job is estimated as \$700,000. Better pull it down, boys.

Lancashire in a Bad Way

LANCASHIRE, the heart of England, the home of optimism, the center of the world's textile industry, is in a bad way. For four years the 600,000 textile operatives have been getting along on insufficient work to keep them going decently, with fifteen percent of them registered as actually without any work at all.

The Unfought Campaign of 1919

OF THE unfought campaign of 1919 Winston S. Churchill says:

"Had the Germans retained the morale to make good their retreat to the Rhine, they would have been assaulted in the summer of 1919 with forces and by methods incomparably more prodigious than any yet employed. Thousands of airplanes would have shattered their cities. Scores of thousands of cannon would have blasted their front. Arrangements were being made to carry simultaneously a quarter of a million men, together with all their requirements, continuously forward across country in mechanical vehicles moving ten or fifteen miles each day. Poison gases of incredible malignity, against which only a secret mask (which the Germans could not obtain in time) was proof, would have stifled all resistance and paralyzed all life on the hostile front subjected to attack."

France's Balance Sheet

FRANCE wound up the year 1924 by publishing, in a six-hundred-page book, her long-expected balance sheet. The summary shows France's total assets, estimated at 796,830,000,000 francs, and her debts, exclusive of American and British debts, at 660,320,000,000 francs. The American and British debts are, roughly speaking, just about what is left; namely, 136,510,000,000 francs. France is a going concern, but to all intents and purposes is bankrupt.

How Governments do Things

WHEN, toward the close of 1924, it came time for the French government to grant amnesty to a former Minister of the Interior, it

was brought to light that the defeatist paper with which he was connected and because of which he lost his citizenship, was being subsidized by the government to attack it. M. Malvy, the victim, kept still, though knowing all the facts, rather than embarrass his government in the pursuit of its war policies. What ends were gained by the French government in maintaining a defeatist paper on their payroll were not stated. It was evidently run as a trap to catch pacifists.

Earth Turned Upside Down

THE social earth turned upside down was clearly revealed in Paris the other day when the Soviet Ambassador's wife went to a leading store to get some dresses. The four clerks appointed to wait upon her each turned out to be former members of the Russian aristocracy; and all four flatly refused to recognize the new aristocracy, or to wait upon their customer.

Masonry Suppressed in Spain

THE strong hand of the Papacy is seen in the order issued by the so-called Spanish Government outlawing Masonry throughout Spain. It was evidently the success of this movement in Spain that led to the order of Mussolini that a similar law should be passed in Italy. All lodges in Spain have been warned to hold no more meetings or imprisonment will result.

Spanish Dictator Summons Ibanez

BECAUSE he bombarded several Spanish towns with leaflets ridiculing Alfonso, the Spanish military dictator has summoned the Spanish author Ibanez to come from Paris to Madrid to be tried. But Ibanez laughed when told the news, and said that he would as quickly throw himself into waters inhabited by hungry crocodiles or take refuge on a cannibal island as to visit Spain now. He thinks that soon it will have a civilized government; then he will go there.

Spain Abandons 250 Moroccan Towns

IN THE process of gradually crawling into its hole and pulling the hole in afterwards, the Spanish military régime has abandoned 250 of the towns and villages of Morocco formerly

held by Spain, finding it impossible to retain their control. The present plan is to keep the Riffs away from the markets, and thus gradually starve them into submission.

Spain Actually Learning Something

THE naked Riffians having whipped the Spanish out of their territory, Spain is now inaugurating a decent modern system of government among the Moors over whom she still rules. These will now be given administrative, legislative, judicial and religious offices; while the Spanish will content themselves with maintaining order, thus imitating the French methods. The Riffs have conquered Spain through expert marksmanship, "sniping," by scattered men.

Changing Names of Cities

FIRST we had to get used to the change of name from St. Petersburg to Petrograd, and then to the subsequent change to Leningrad. Now along comes Christiania, and demands henceforth to be known as Oslo, by which name the town was called until destroyed by fire three hundred years ago. All right, Oslo!

Religious Liberty in Poland

THE constitution of Poland guarantees religious liberty. The Southern Methodists bought a property there at Pustomyty, to be used as an orphanage, paying cash for it to a Polish senator. Before the deed was recorded, somebody referred it to the Roman Catholic archbishop; and he wrote on the margin that no good Catholic would ever permit such an institution to remain there. The result was that the government ordered the Methodists to sell out in thirty days, or it would expropriate the property. Such is Romanism, *always*.

Germany on a Raft

IN A speech in Berlin before the German bankers Dr. Schacht, President of the Reichsbank, said: "In the terrible storms of the last few years the German state was wrecked, but the crew saved themselves on a raft. What we must find out is whether we can steer this raft safely into port and build a new ship for venturing out again on the world's oceans."

Germany Through with Monarchism

THE recent election in Germany, in which 30,000,000 votes were cast, reveals that both the monarchists and the communists have lost ground. The vote is split up among nine political parties, 8,000,000 votes going to the Socialists, 6,000,000 to the Nationalists, 4,000,000 to the Catholic or Centre Party, 3,000,000 each to the Communists and the People's Party, 2,000,000 to the Democrats, and the balance to the Fascists and other small parties.

Bavarian Teachers Protest

THE seizure of the public schools of Bavaria by the Papacy is not being accomplished without a protest. At a great meeting held in Nuremburg shortly after the seizure was announced, two thousand school teachers, with only one dissenting vote, denounced the placing of the public schools of Bavaria under the control of the priests and the nuns.

No Free Speech in Italy

THE New York *American*, referring to Mussolini's desperate efforts to hang on as long as possible, says: "All newspapers not applauding the outlaw government have been suspended or suppressed. Those who dared open criticism have seen their offices and plants invaded by the militia, their linotypes, machines, presses and furniture smashed, and their buildings burned to the ground." Mussolini has re-established the crucifix in all the schools.

Italian Masons Temporarily Dissolve

FACED by Mussolini's threat of a new law demanding the publication of all their secrets, together with a complete roster of their membership, the Italian Grand Lodge of Free Masons has met and decided for the present upon the dissolution of Italian Freemasonry. Mussolini's excuse for the new law is a professed desire to protect the Pope during the latter's holy year.

Italy Tiring of Anarchist Rule

MUSSOLINI is like a strong man with a firm grip on the ears of a mad dog. Having started government by anarchy, he is in a fair way to get his anarchy without any government. None of the people's representatives

will have anything to do with his hand-picked Fascisti Parliament. He would like to have a new one, so that he might have a show of excuse to govern; but the king has refused to dissolve his present one.

Good Bye to Johnny Dundee

ON JANUARY 2nd the Pope is said to have bestowed a special blessing upon Johnny Dundee, the world's champion featherweight prize-fighter. The manager of the champion also came in for his share of the blessing. At the time of the Spanish American war, the Pope officially bestowed his blessing on the Spanish fleet just before it came over to be sent to the bottom. The outlook for Johnny Dundee is pretty bad.

Albania's Stormy Career

ALBANIA, which gained its independence in 1912, has had a stormy career. It is the heart of the Balkans, torn with religious strife, and coveted by Serbia and Greece no less than by Italy, opposite to which it lies. The former Moslem premier has just come marching in from Serbia and, for the moment, caused the flight of Bishop Noli, premier for the last six months. Italy has warned both Greece and Serbia that they must not seize Albanian territory. Meantime Great Britain has also sent warnings to Serbia and Bulgaria, to the same effect.

Waters of Dead Sea Rising

AN ISLAND in the Dead Sea which, in 1852, was ten feet above the level of the waters, has disappeared from view, owing to the fact that the waters are gradually rising. These rising waters have in time completely covered Sodom and Gomorrah, whose ruins lie beneath the sea.

Miss Pankhurst and the Jew

MISS CHRISTABEL PANKHURST, daughter of the militant suffragette, Mrs. Emmeline Pankhurst, has been giving some addresses in New York. In one of these she observes correctly, Scripturally, that the return of the Jews to Palestine, which we see actually taking place before our eyes, is "the supremely important factor in the world's affairs today".

How China Serves Looters

HOW China serves looters was illustrated on Christmas day, and the two days immediately following, when 1,065 soldiers who were found with loot or who confessed to having participated in looting, were lined up, blindfolded, on a railway bridge, at the ends of the ties, and then shot, falling thirty feet to the ice below. Our 100-percent-profit patrioteers had better keep out of China.

The Japanese Typewriter

THE Japanese typewriter has but one key, but it has 7,026 characters. An experienced operator will turn out sixty words per minute, which is about twice as fast as the characters can be made by hand. The machine prints from the bottom of the page to the top and from the right side to the left. Unusual characters are located by means of a directory which goes with the machine. The English alphabet is thrown in for good measure.

Christ Cometh Not with Observation

THE poor people of Sydney, Australia, who have built a \$60,000 amphitheatre on a beach near there, have wasted their money. They would have done better had they studied their Bibles so that they might comprehend the force of the Master's own words that "the kingdom of God cometh not with observation". No fleshly eye will ever see the Spirit Christ.

Seven Hundred and Seventy Languages

THE various Bible societies and missionary organizations have now translated the Bible, in whole or in part, into seven hundred and seventy languages. Many of these tongues are spoken by people who have made but the first feeble steps toward civilization. Reducing their language to written form will greatly aid their enlightenment.

Perhaps Tutankhamen was Joseph

PROFESSOR Selikovitch, a renowned Egyptologist, believes that when King Tutankhamen's tomb is finally opened it will be found empty. He declares that Tutankhamen lived in Joseph's time; that the man, whoever he was, erased the names of the Egyptian gods

from all the monuments, and substituted the name Adon, which in Hebrew, means Lord. Joseph's bones, at his express request, were taken up out of Egypt to Palestine.

Sudan Plantations Syndicate Limited

THIS very year, 1925, unless something unforeseen occurs to prevent, the one British concern, Sudan Plantations Syndicate Limited, will have 300,000 acres of cotton land under the plow, while at least 500,000 acres are projected for the immediate future. The largest cotton field in the United States has 15,000 acres. American cotton is hard hit.

Zebras Hard to Handle

DESCRIBING his experiences in bringing a South African zebra to Europe a writer in *The Cape Argus* says:

"I found him awaiting me in an enclosure near Nairobi, and the first business was to get a headstall on him. While we were cutting an opening to get him out, the zebra jumped right through the barbed wires of the enclosure, and became thoroughly upset. When we went to adjust his headstall, which had gotten over one ear, he dashed straight for the gate. Knocking out two of the panels, he got the gate around his neck, and finished by turning a somersault, gate and all. Getting to his feet again, he broke out of the gate, leaving only the frame-work. That was the animal we had to lead for three miles across country! While I was looking after the elands, which were also giving trouble, the zebra broke away from the boys; but, being fleet-footed, they caught him again, and tied him to a post. Though this was almost as stout as a scaffold-pole, he pulled it out of the ground. Making another start, the zebra kicked himself free, and charged one of the boys, biting him through the arm and elbow. The zebra was prevented from doing more damage, and later was lassoed by a policeman, and tied to the back of a bullock wagon. All went well for a time; and then the zebra sat down. We could not drag him along: so we had to take him off. When he reached the train, he ran wild again. He was so wicked on board ship that he nearly kicked the panels out of his heavy traveling-box. As a rule zebras are quickly tamed and, after being tethered with quiet donkeys for a few days, are released and herded with the donkeys, and appear quite happy in captivity, frequently showing marked affection for horses, which they will follow from camp to camp, and eventually into the railway truck."

The Edison Questions *By H. E. Coffee*

MR. THOMAS A. EDISON, the celebrated inventor, is a manufacturer as well, and employs hundreds of young men and women in his various enterprises. He has asserted that college graduates are "amazingly ignorant". In proof of his assertion he claims that many with college diplomas fail to pass the examinations which he gives. Below is a list of Mr. Edison's questions. He says that anyone so ill informed as to be unable to answer most of these questions is too ignorant to be employed by him. For the benefit of those who are not so well "posted" as Mr. Edison would have them be, I have appended the answers:

What countries bound France? Answer: Spain, Italy, Switzerland, Germany, and Belgium.

Who was Bessemer, and what did he do? Answer: Sir Henry Bessemer was an English inventor and engineer who lived from 1813 to 1898. He is usually given credit for having first discovered the Bessemer process for making steel. However, this process was really discovered by William Kelly eight years before Bessemer announced his discovery.

Who was John Hancock? Answer: American Revolutionary patriot, President of the Continental Congress, and the first signer of the Declaration of Independence.

Who was Plutarch? Answer: Greek biographer and essayist, born at Chæronea, in Bœotia, about A. D. 46.

Who was Hannibal? Answer: The greatest general and statesman of ancient Carthage (247-183 B. C.).

Who was Danton? Answer: Georges Jacques Danton (1759-1794) was a French Revolutionary leader, born at Arcis-sur-Aube.

Who was Solon? Answer: Solon (about 639-559 B. C.) was an Athenian statesman and one of the most famous lawyers of all time.

Who was Francis Marion? Answer: Francis Marion (1732-1795) was a very daring colonial leader in the American Revolution.

Who was Leonidas? Answer: Leonidas was the Spartan king who opposed the Persian hosts under Xerxes at the narrow mountain pass Thermopylæ.

Where did we get Louisiana from? Answer: Louisiana was obtained from France.

Who was Pizarro? Answer: Francisco Pizar-

ro (1471-1541), an illegitimate son of a Spaniard, Gonsalvo Pizarro, was a Spanish explorer noted for his conquest of Peru.

Who was Bolivar? Answer: Simon Bolivar, native of Caracas, was a celebrated leader of the revolutionary forces of Venezuela in the revolt of Spain.

Where does most of the coffee come from? Answer: Two-thirds of the world's supply of coffee comes from Brazil.

Where is Korea? Answer: Korea is a mountainous peninsula southeast of Manchuria, between the Japan and the Yellow Sea in Asia.

Where is Manchuria? Answer: Manchuria is a province in Northeastern China, the original home of the Manchu.

Where was Napoleon born? Answer: Napoleon was born at Ajaccio, capital of the island of Corsica.

What is the highest rise of tide on the North Atlantic coast? Answer: Sixty feet.

Who invented logarithms? Answer: John Napier, who published his tables in 1614.

Who was emperor of Mexico when Cortez landed? Answer: Montezuma.

What and where is the Sargasso Sea? Answer: A tract of floating sea weed in the North Atlantic Ocean, covering an area greater than that of France.

What is the greatest known depth of the ocean? Answer: 32,088 feet.

What is the name of a large inland body of water that has no outlet? Answer: The Caspian Sea.

What is the capital of Pennsylvania? Answer: Harrisburg.

What State is the largest? Next? Answer: Texas; next California.

Rhode Island is the smallest state. What is the next, and the next? Answer: Delaware is the second smallest; Connecticut is third.

How far is it from New York to Buffalo? Answer: 439 miles.

How far is it from New York to San Francisco? Answer: 3,331 miles.

How far is it from New York to Liverpool? Answer: 3,079 miles.

Of what state is Helena the capital? Answer: Montana.

Of what state is Tallahassee the capital? Answer: Florida.

Where is the Imperial Valley, and what is it noted for? Answer: The Imperial Valley lies in the lower part of California. It is noted for its extensive irrigation system and its productions of fruits, etc.

What state has the largest copper mines? Answer: Arizona.

What state has the largest amethyst mines? Answer: Michigan.

What is the name of a famous violin-maker? Answer: Antonio Stradivarius.

Who invented the typesetting machine? Answer: Ottmar Mergenthaler.

Who invented printing? Answer: Johannes Gutenberg of Germany, and Laurens Coster, of Holland, invented printing with movable type. It is not known positively which of these inventors was first in the field.

How is leather tanned? Answer: By placing hides from which hair has been removed into a vat containing oak bark or hemlock bark solution. The strength of the solution is gradually increased. Bran and alum are sometimes substituted for tanbark.

What is artificial silk made from? Answer: Artificial silk is made by dissolving cellulose in suitable solvents and forcing the liquids through minute holes into some medium which immediately reforms the cellulose in fine threads which shine like silk.

What is a caisson? Answer: In civil engineering, a water-tight box or casing.

What is shellac? Answer: A substance made by the *lac*, an insect which lives on fig and other trees in Assam, Bengal, and Siam.

What is celluloid made from? Answer: Celluloid is made from vegetable fiber (usually cotton), acids and camphor.

What causes the tides? Answer: Tides are caused by the attractive force of the sun and the moon as it is exerted on the earth.

To what is the change in the seasons due? Answer: To the revolution of the earth about the sun.

How many states in the Union? Answer: 48.

Where do we get prunes from? Answer: California, Washington, Oregon, France, Spain, Portugal, Germany, Bosnia, and Serbia.

Who was Paul Revere? Answer: Paul Revere (1735-1818) was a Revolutionary hero and engraver of the first paper currency of Massachusetts.

What city and country produce the finest China? Answer: (Experts do not agree upon a definite answer.) Dresden, Germany, has the reputation for producing the finest, though the credit really belongs to the city of Meissen, which is 14 miles from Dresden.

Where is the river Volga? Answer: In Russia.

What is the finest cotton grown? Answer: Sea-island cotton.

What city is the fur center of the United States? Answer: St. Louis, Mo.

What country is the greatest textile producer? Answer: The United States.

Is Australia greater than Greenland in area? Answer: Yes.

Where is Copenhagen? Answer: In Denmark.

What is Spitzbergen? Answer: An arctic archipelago, to which no country lays definite claim.

In what country other than Australia are kangaroos found? Answer: New Guinea.

What telescope is the largest in the world? Answer: The Yerkes Observatory telescope, on the north shore of Lake Geneva, Wisconsin.

What is coke? Answer: Bituminous or soft coal, when burned with a limited supply of air in kilns, produces a variety of charcoal called coke.

From what part of the North Atlantic do we get codfish? Answer: The Grand Banks of Newfoundland and along the shores of New England.

Who reached the South Pole? Answer: Roland Amundsen; Scott.

What is a monsoon? Answer: The seasonal wind on the Indian Ocean, which blows in an almost steady gale from the southwest from April to October.

Where is Magdalena Bay? Answer: Indefinite; there are three by this name.

From where do we import figs? Answer: From countries around the Mediterranean sea, principally through the seaport of Smyrna.

From where do we get dates? Answer: North Africa, Southwestern Asia, California, Texas, and Arizona.

Where do we get our domestic sardines? Answer: Along the Pacific coast, especially California.

What is the speed of sound? Answer: At the freezing point the speed of sound is 1,090 feet per second.

What is the speed of light? Answer: 186,000 miles per second.

What is the longest railroad in the world? Answer: The Trans-Siberian Railway.

Where is Kenosha? Answer: The county seat of Kenosha County, Wisconsin.

Who was Cleopatra, and how did she die? Cleopatra was the name borne by several Egyptian queens, the most famous being Cleopatra VI. Tradition says that she died from the bite of an asp which she had placed on her arm. Some historians question the truthfulness of this.

Where are condors found? Answer: In the South American Andes.

Who discovered the law of gravitation? Answer: Sir Isaac Newton.

What is the distance between the earth and the sun? Answer: Its least distance from the sun is 89,897,000 miles; its greatest distance 92,963,000 miles.

Who invented photography? Answer: Louis Jacques Mandé Daguerre is given the credit, though it is doubtful that he deserves it.

What country produces the most wool? Answer: Australia.

What is felt? Answer: It is an unwoven material made from wool, hair and fur, matted together by the aid of moisture and heat and by rolling.

What cereal is used in all parts of the world? Answer: Wheat is the most satisfactory bread material and should be universally used. However, no one cereal is used in all parts of the world.

What states produce phosphates? Answer: Florida and Tennessee.

Name three principal acids. Answer: Sulphuric acid, hydrochloric acid, and nitric acid.

Name three powerful poisons. Answer: White arsenic, carbolic acid, and strychnine.

Who discovered radium? Answer: Madame Curie.

Who discovered the X-ray? Answer: Professor Wilhelm Roentgen.

Name three principal alkalis. Answer: Caustic alkali, sodium, and potassium.

What part of Germany do toys come from? Answer: Nuremberg.

What states bound West Virginia? Answer: Pennsylvania, Ohio, Kentucky, Virginia, and Maryland.

Where do we get peanuts from? Answer: The Southern States.

What is the capital of Alabama? Answer: Montgomery.

Who composed "Il Trovatore"? Answer: Giuseppe Verdi.

What is the weight of air in a room 20 by 30 by 10? Answer: At sea level, one square inch sustains the weight of about 14.7 pounds of air, from which information the problem may be solved.

Where is platinum found? Answer: In Russia, Colombia, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, and the islands of Borneo and Sumatra.

With what metal is platinum associated when found? Answer: Gold.

Where do we get sulphur from? Answer: Sicily and Louisiana.

Who discovered how to vulcanize rubber? Answer: Charles Goodyear.

Where do we import rubber from? Answer: South America, Mexico, Africa, Malay Peninsula, and Ceylon.

Who invented the cotton-gin? Answer: Eli Whitney.

What is the difference between anthracite and bituminous coal? Answer: Anthracite is hard coal, while bituminous is soft coal.

Where do we get benzol from? Answer: It is obtained from the refinement of coal tar.

Of what is glass made? Answer: Sand, lime, sodium carbonate, etc.

How is window-glass made? Answer: By first blowing glass into a large cylinder form, and then cutting and flattening out this cylinder.

What is porcelain? Answer: A name applied to those varieties of pottery having a glass-like appearance.

What country makes the best optical lenses and what city? This question cannot be answered, as opinions differ.

What kind of machine is used to cut the facets on diamonds? Answer: Very simple tools made from other diamonds.

What is a foot-pound? Answer: The amount of work done in raising a weight of one pound a distance of one foot.

Where do we get borax from? Answer: Death Valley, California.

Where is the Assuan Dam? Answer: Near Assuan, in Egypt.

What large river in the United States flows

from south to north? Answer: Red River of the North.

What are the Straits of Messina? Answer: The straits off the coast of Sicily, separating that island from Italy.

What is the highest mountain in the world? Answer: Mt. Everest.

Where do we import cork from? Answer: Spain and Portugal.

Where is the St. Gothard tunnel? Answer: A railway thoroughfare through the St. Gothard pass, in the Alps.

Where is Taj Mahal? Answer: In India.

Where is Labrador? Answer: The extreme eastern country of British North America.

Who wrote the "Star-Spangled Banner"? Answer: Francis Scott Key.

Who wrote "Home, Sweet Home"? Answer: John Howard Payne.

Who was Martin Luther. Answer: See Volume Seven, STUDIES IN THE SCRIPTURES.

What is the chief acid in vinegar? Answer: Acetic acid.

Who wrote Don Quixote? Answer: Miguel de Saavedra Cervantes.

Who wrote Les Miserables? Answer: Victor Marie Hugo.

What place is the greatest distance below sea level? Answer: The Dead Sea.

What are ax-handles made of? Answer: Hickory.

Who made The Thinker? Answer: The sculptor, Auguste Rodin.

Why is a Farenheit thermometer called Farenheit? Answer: From its inventor's name, the German scientist, Gabriel Daniel Farenheit.

Who owned and ran the New York *Herald* for a long time? Answer: James Gordon Bennett.

What is copra? Answer: The dried meat or kernel of the cocoanut.

What insect carries malaria? Answer: The *Anopheles* mosquito.

Who discovered the Pacific ocean? Answer: Vasco Nunez de Balboa.

What country has the largest output of nickel in the world? Answer: Ontario, Canada.

What ingredients are in the best white paint? Answer: Linseed oil, white lead, zinc, and a drier.

What is glucose, and how made? Answer:

A sugary syrup obtained from corn. It is made by treating the starch with hydrochloric acid, greatly diluted.

In what part of the world does it never rain? Answer: Walfish Bay, on the west coast of Africa.

What was the approximate population of England, France, Germany and Russia before the war? Answer: 35,678,530; 39,402,739; 64,925,993; 178,378,800, respectively.

Where do we get quicksilver from? Answer: From mines in Mexico, Spain, California and Texas.

Of what are violin strings made? Answer: Of catgut.

What city on the Atlantic seaboard is the greatest pottery center? Answer: Jersey City, New Jersey.

The reader will notice that the foregoing are mostly practical queries. Only once does Mr. Edison broach things spiritual, and that in reference to Martin Luther, which is also an historical query. Hence one could not gain insight into one's spiritual understanding from the results of an Edison test. Spiritual things do not interest the great inventor, as he has on more than one occasion admitted.

As some of us who have had experience in pedagogy may know, questions are more easily asked than answered; and anyone at all clever should be able to prepare a list of questions similar in number to the Edison list and quite as difficult to answer. No one can yet truthfully claim to be perfectly versatile on all lines of human knowledge; and no one will ever be able to make such claim until the Great Physician, Christ Jesus, effects the complete restoration of the human race. Meanwhile our time might be more profitably spent in searching out answers to spiritual interrogations. I venture the assertion that Mr. Edison would find it quite as difficult to answer or to attempt to answer the first one hundred and thirty questions in the HARP OF GOD as do the majority of applicants to whom he presents his prepared list of questions. The point is that one should pride himself more in the knowledge of God's truth—holy things—than in the knowledge of things worldly; "for the wisdom of this world is foolishness with God."—1 Corinthians 3:19.

"There is Nothing Covered that Shall Not be Revealed"

ONE of our subscribers in Florida has sent us a letter which she received through the mail, and has requested us to make some comments. The letter is reproduced herewith by photo-reproduction methods, the name of the lady being deleted:

Brooklyn N.Y. New Years 1925.

Dear sister C

De Funiak Springs Fla.

Greetings - For reasons which you being in the light will readily comprehend; this communication must be considered confidential.

The wonderful and glorious revelations which I am to impart to you must be edited and millions of copies printed before we are ready to spread the tidings broadcast and we are counting on you and your fellow students and workers in the cause to lend a willing and energetic hand in the distribution when you receive your quota of copies.

We are considering the working out of plans whereby every radio broadcasting station in the world may simultaneously broadcast the voice of our dear departed Brother "R" who has been in communication with us over the radio at times for several days past.

We are feverishly working to so strengthen our apparatus that we will be not only able to receive his signals but be able to pass them on to the world by radio broadcasting them.

Some of the salient points brought out in his communications are :- The definite date which we are all so anxious to be sure about - It is midnight, preceding the first day of July 1925. Another point of importance is the assurance of redemption, by love and prayer, of those near to us, by those of us who are sanctified, and it behoves us all to work diligently in this connection.

The complete compilation, which will be mailed you shortly, will fully explain itself.

You will acquaint your fellow students with this information, and are at liberty to use the information but not its source until we release the completed texts.

Please destroy this copy and abide in peace and joy.

Yours for the truth.

J.F.R.

Dictated TDR

Upon receipt of the letter we gave it a cursory examination, and wrote to the lady as follows:

Mrs. _____
De Funiak Springs,
Florida.

Dear Sister:

We thank you for your favor of January 13.

The typewritten letter which you enclosed was evidently written in De Funiak Springs, and not on New Year's Day but on January 5. The envelope shows that during that day it was taken to some station west of De Funiak Springs, but not as far west as Pensacola. It was mailed in the mail car of Louisville & Nashville Train No. 1, which passes through De Funiak Springs in the evening. It was stamped at De Funiak Springs Post Office at 5 o'clock the following morning. This is

probably the work of some preacher, because it is inconceivable to us that any other resident of your city would be low enough in his scale of mental and moral depravity to do such a disreputable, unmanly and half-witted piece of work. If you think that you know who wrote the letter, we suggest that you go to him and accuse him of it.

With Christian greetings,

THE GOLDEN AGE

In the firm belief that one of the preachers of De Funiak Springs wrote the forged letter, we are mailing each of them a copy of this number of THE GOLDEN AGE and citing a few additional items which we think should be interesting to them, as well as, no doubt, to our

readers. We address the remainder of our remarks to the writer of the letter, and number the points.

1. In your first line you should have had a comma after "Brooklyn", and another after "N. Y." In writing "N. Y." you first erred by striking a lower case "n". In the effort to correct this error, the paper feed on the typewriter got away from you; and when you did finally get a capital "N" in approximately the place where it should have been, the result was that it and the remainder of the line are about one-sixteenth too high. Work of this nature would stamp you as unfit for work in a first-class publishing house, no matter what else you might undertake to do. To these errors you have added by writing "New Years". This Judge Rutherford would never have done: First, because business men date their letters in a business way, as "January 1, 1925"; and, second, because, if he had undertaken to write "New Year's" he would have inserted the apostrophe which belongs in the expression, instead of omitting it.

2. In your second line you should have capitalized the word "Sister".

3. In your third line, if desiring to indent the name of De Funiak Springs at all, you should have indented it to harmonize with the remainder of your letter. Besides, you should have placed a comma after the word "Springs".

4. In your fourth line you have indented your paragraph much too far; and the same criticism applies to the seventh, twelfth, sixteenth, nineteenth, twenty-fifth, twenty-seventh, twenty-ninth and thirtieth lines of your letter. This is an indentation never used by business men, but is such an indentation as might be used by a clergyman or some other person who has no regular useful employment. Business men can not afford to waste their time, nor the time of their secretaries, by unnecessary typewriter movements. In the same line the word "Greetings" should have been followed by a period. To follow it by a dash indicates a slovenly habit of mind. The word "you" on the same line should have been followed by a comma instead of a dash.

5. In the fifth line the word "light" should have been followed by a comma instead of a dash. Better keep the old typewriter exclusively for copying sermons, pop.

6. In the sixth line we notice that the "e", "f",

"e" and "a" need cleaning; that the "c" is below the line, and that the "i", the "l" and the period have been hit too hard.

7. In the seventh line we would be more impressed but for the observation that the "h", "d", "f", "g" and "s" all need cleaning. Your typewriter needs attention, son.

8. In the eighth line there should be a comma after the word "edited" and another after the word "printed". You would never do for a proofreader.

9. In the ninth line the word "broadcast" should be followed by a semicolon.

10. The "f", "s", "d" and "g" are still dirty, in the tenth line.

11. In the eleventh line they are just the same.

12. In the twelfth line there is no improvement.

13. In the thirteenth line they are even worse.

14. In the fourteenth line you should have written the name out as "Russell", instead of designating such a truly great man by the mere initial "R"; and in any event you should have followed the word or its abbreviation by a comma. We would not have you around here at all.

15. You probably meant well on the fifteenth line; but you smeared and spoiled the line when you made the bungling correction on the next line below.

16. When you wrote the sixteenth line, you were working so "feverishly", to use your own language, that in your anxiety to get Judge Rutherford in wrong you allowed your long left forefinger to get up a little too high on the keyboard, and a little too far to the northwest, with the result that you first tapped the figure "2". Then you thought better of it and tried to erase the "2", but did not know how to do so. Again you shifted your paper out of position, so that when you put in the "w" in place of the "2" you got it half a letter out of place vertically and half a line out of place horizontally. We feel for you, and can vision how unhappy you must have been, and can imagine how you probably cussed under your breath, until finally you had executed the bungling botch which we photograph.

17. In the seventeenth line you made the error of misplacing the first of a pair of correlative conjunctions. Instead of saying, ungrammatically, "we will be not only able", you should have

chosen the more elegant form of "we will not only be able".

18. In the eighteenth line you started to capitalize the word "them" and at the last moment changed your mind and tried to make it lower case, which is correct; but your mind and hand were too far gone, and you produced a result which is like the Laodicean church and the mule—neither one thing nor the other. You had better stop this line of work now, before you do something foolish and get caught at it. We might say also that your expression "radio broadcasting" is an unfortunate one. You should have said either "radiocasting" or "broadcasting". To say "radio broadcasting" is like saying, "The La Grippe".

19. In the nineteenth line our aesthetic taste is still offended by the fact that you have failed to clean your "S" or your "s".

20. In the twentieth line you say: "We are all so anxious." Probably so! Probably so! But in the place where you used the expression you should not have capitalized the "w". We can realize how you came to capitalize it. Perhaps you will be less anxious to do so henceforth.

21. In the twenty-first line the word "about" should have been followed by a period instead of a dash. On the same line the word "July" should have been followed by a comma. If we did our work no better than that, we would expect to "get the air". You had better keep away from New York.

22. In the twenty-second line you should have omitted the space between the word "redemption" and the comma which follows. It looks bad. Try to do better the next time.

23. In the twenty-third line the word "sanctified" should have been followed by a semicolon instead of a comma. You seem rather weak on punctuation.

24. In the twenty-fourth line you misspelled the word "behooves", and it "behooves" us to draw the matter to your attention. You should be more careful.

25. In the twenty-fifth line you will pardon us if we suggest that the preferred form of construction is "mailed to you" instead of "mailed you". Please take no offense at this suggestion.

26. In the twenty-sixth line you made again the unfortunate error of inserting an unnecessary space between the word "shortly" and the comma which follows. A good course in a lo-

cal business college would help you along these lines. It will come in very well, later.

27. In the twenty-seventh line the same long left forefinger which played you such a shabby trick when you reached for the lower case "w" on the sixteenth line of your letter, this time led you to the northeast instead of the northwest; and you landed on the "#" sign. No doubt you meant all right; for you went back and smashed a "w" over it. But it does not look well, son. It seems to bear the impress of the clerical mind, the mind that never learns.

28. In the twenty-eighth line we are still offended by the dirty "f", "a", "s" and "e".

29. In the twenty-ninth line, you originally wrote a certain word as though it were spelled "cpleted". We can see how it happened. You reached for the "o" but went a little too far to the right and landed on the "p". But by this time you had tired of trying to make corrections in the proper way, it being out of your line ever to correct anything; so you fixed the matter up with a lead pencil and let it go.

30. In the thirtieth line you omitted the comma after the word "copy".

31. In the thirty-first line you omitted the comma after the word "truth". It is a wonder that you did not drop dead when you wrote that word "truth".

32. In the thirty-second line you signed "J.F.R." on the typewriter, instead of having the letter properly signed in ink or by facsimile stamp.

33. In the thirty-third and last line you said "Dictated TDR"; but there is no person of such initials in the employ of Judge Rutherford.

34. The letters which we get from Judge Rutherford are always faultlessly written. Your forgery is a botch from beginning to end. Moreover, your letter was folded improperly.

35. The letters which we get from Judge Rutherford are written on the printed stationery which fits the office that he fills. Your forgery was not written on any letterhead at all.

36. The letters which we get from Judge Rutherford are written on a good bond made in Holyoke, Massachusetts, which sells for 8½¢ per lb. less than the Blandford Bond which you used, and which is made at Mittineague, Massachusetts. The two places are miles apart.

37. The letters which we get from Judge

Rutherford are written "double space", while your letter was written "single space".

38. The letters which we get from Judge Rutherford are written in elite type, while your letter was written in pica type.

39. The letters which we get from Judge Rutherford almost always contain some word or expression which discloses the legal mind. Your letter discloses the mind of a clergyman.

40. When Judge Rutherford is getting ready to do something, he does not tell his plans to even his closest friends; but the mouth of a jackass always reveals all he knows.

41. When Judge Rutherford really does start something, he starts it all over and not in one town in Florida. Your forgery is the work of a simpleton.

42. If your letter had been written in New York on January 1st, it would have caught train number 35 on the Southern out of here that night, would have been postmarked Brooklyn,

and would have arrived at De Funiak Springs after office hours on the evening of January 3rd. As it was your letter was postmarked "Jack. & Pens. West R.P.O. Tr 1 Jan 5 1925", and on the back "De Funiak Springs Fla Jan 6 5 AM." You missed your calculations just 48 hours.

As a matter of fact, good friend, you are playing a dangerous game. It would not take at the outside more than one day for any first-class man to go into De Funiak Springs and locate positively the typewriter that wrote your letter and the hand that did the work. You are playing with fire, and had better quit and take up some honorable and useful employment. The people no longer have any use for the played-out line of bunk you have been giving them. We have given a little more than ordinary attention to your letter because it was a little more than ordinarily mean. Play the game of life like a man, and not like a sneak. The Lord has no use for sneaks; neither have real men.

Miracle of American Production *By H. E. Miles in the Kansas City Labor Herald*

WITH only six percent of the world's population and one-thirteenth of its land surface, the United States is manufacturing about one-half of many of the world's essential commodities, and consuming almost in proportion to its production.

The following figures, presented by Mr. Julius Barnes, illustrate:

America produces 43 percent of the world output of coal and consumes 42 percent.

America produces 54 percent of the world output of iron and consumes 53 percent.

America produces 64 percent of the world output of steel and consumes 57 percent.

America produces 49 percent of the world output of copper and consumes 44 percent.

America produces 64 percent of the world output of petroleum and consumes 72 percent.

America produces 69 percent of the world output of cotton and consumes 37 percent.

America produces 52 percent of the world output of timber and consumes 51 percent.

America produces 41 percent of the world output of shoes and consumes 39 percent.

America produces 43 percent of the world output of printing paper—the great indicator

of the dissemination of information and knowledge—and consumes 50 percent.

The United States possesses about one-half of the world's supply of gold. It owns almost half the railroad mileage of the world, and three-quarters of the telephone and telegraph equipment. It produces and uses about ninety percent of the world's automobiles. With 7,800,000 railway employes in 1923, her Class 1 railroads moved 423,000,000,000 ton-miles of freight. Our exports in 1923 averaged \$13,000,000 daily. Our total foreign trade averaged \$26,000,000 daily.

To claim that our wage-earners did all this would be as foolish as for the grain of wheat to say to the glass of water: "I, Wheat, sustain life. Water doesn't count." Labor would be the last to make such a claim. The point, however, is that labor did its more than full and marvelous share in this astounding production. In its will to work, its energy, its love of service and accomplishment, it set an example to the world. It showed that high wages are cheap wages; that any nation that would compete with us must, by high wages and high living standards, emulate the United States and cease to look for profit through low wages for labor.

What You Do When You Vaccinate *By F. P. Millard, D. O.*

WE HAVE in the human body a wonderful system of circulation, in that it is three-fold. There is the arterial and venous circulation of the blood; and there is the third circulation, called the lymphatic circulation. It is the last which here concerns us.

The lymphatic circulation has a series of channels, tubes or ducts, with a terminal drainage point in the veins on either side of the neck. Associated with the lymphatic circulation are hundreds of glands, technically called "nodes". Now these nodes or glands are "traps"; and in case of emergency they retain, until sometimes overburdened, poisons that if allowed to escape through the system at once would produce almost instant death.

When these glands become blocked and overflow, as they do in extreme cases of vaccine poisoning, the blood circulation takes up the blockage products; and death from blood poisoning is the result.

In an ordinary vaccination, the axillary glands in the armpit will be swollen and tender. The swelling may disappear after two or three weeks, though it may persist for months and become chronic in type, and even develop into malignancy in the breast or the armpit.

A case reported by Dr. Peebles (M. D.) was the direct result of the virus traveling up from the armpit, and forming a chronic suppurating wound in the glands under the jaw.

Gangrene of the hand, as referred to by Dr. Hold, an authority of national repute, is another confirmation of the blockage of the circulation by chronic or indurated or even by suppurating lymphatic glands.

The lymph flow is as essential as the blood flow; and the poisoning of the lymphatic system simply means the poisoning of the body tissues and organs.

Once the lymphatic system is blocked, there is a systemic disturbance that involves the various organs of the body; and many patients state that their breakdown and ill health date from the time of vaccination, or the poisoning of the body through blockage of the lymphatics.

Hundreds of persons have died from this

lymphatic poisoning following vaccination. It is a question whether or not a severe vaccine poisoning is not more difficult to clear than a venereal poisoning. The sores following supuration after vaccination are almost impossible to heal in some instances.

As soon as wholesale vaccination is ordered, we see cases of sore throat, diphtheria, measles and mumps. Nurses are rushed to the scene to look after patients whose temperature has been forced away above normal through this systemic pollution.

From a physical standpoint, this nation will crumble and fall if there is not a lessening in the amount of vaccines and serums used.

This wholesale pollution has brought about nervous instability, lack of tone, vascular irregularities; and what else could happen, pray tell me, but growths, cancers, or heart failures?

Particularly note that vaccination for small-pox results in a lymphatic blockage due to an engrafting upon the human of the cells and pus from the bovine. The bovine cell multiplies far more rapidly than the human cell. Such a graft therefore must enormously overtax the human circulation, in having to harbor and harmonize, in a degree, this foreign cell life. The very thought of grafting beast into human is so revolting that instinct as well as reason cries out against it.

Remember this: Six swollen lymphatic glands in certain areas will make one ill. A dozen will put you on your back; and fifty vital glands blocked may cause death.

Finally: To have a vaccination scar is a reflection on the intelligence. A scar following a solicited vaccination signifies loyalty to medical superstition. A scar from forced vaccination is a brand, a mark of medical tyranny and despotism. I would not be vaccinated and take the risk of complications for a \$10,000 draft on the Bank of England. My children have never been vaccinated, and I trust never will. It is up to the mothers of the land to take a determined stand, and they should quickly end the compulsory vaccination of children. Without compulsion, the hideous practice would soon disappear.

Said the Robin to the Sparrow:
"I should really like to know
Why these anxious human beings
Rush about and worry so."

Said the Sparrow to the Robin:
"Friend, I think that it must be
That they have no Heavenly father
Such as cares for you and me."
—Elizabeth Cheney in *the Epoch*.

Meditation in a Cemetery

By C. J. Esterhuysen (South Africa)

IT IS a warm summer afternoon. In proportion as the sun approaches the western horizon and casts its rays more slantingly, the heat of the day abates. Nature becomes inviting, enticing. I yield gladly, and set out to find relief and refreshment, after toil, in the pure, invigorating outside air. Carelessly I stroll along until presently I come to a standstill at the gate of a cemetery. Here I would like to spend a few moments in silent meditation. I pass through the gate.

Deathly Quietude

WHAT a mighty impression is made on one treading this great "God's acre", by the deathly stillness that reigns here! The multitudinous sounds of the town faintly and confusedly penetrate only now and then to this abode of silence. Involuntarily I am reminded of the words of the wise man: "Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might; for there is no work, nor device, nor knowledge, nor wisdom, in the grave, whither thou goest." "For the living know that they shall die; but the dead know not anything. . . . Also their love, and their hatred, and their envy, is now perished."—Ecclesiastes 9: 10, 5, 6.

And again there ring in my ears the words of the Psalmist David, the poet-prophet of the Hebrews: "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) "For in death there is no remembrance of thee: in the grave who shall give thee thanks?" (Psalm 6:5) "His breath goeth forth, he returneth to his earth; in that very day his thoughts perish."—Psalm 146:4.

And yet, despite all this stillness, are not all these mounds so many silent but eloquent witnesses of the destruction to which frail man has been subjected? Like leaves overtaken by the blight of winter, these have been touched by Death's icy hand and laid low. The epitaphs fully substantiate the fact that this cruel enemy respects neither young nor old, neither class nor rank. People from far and near, out of many races, here rest on an equality. Only too true what George Crabbe wrote:

" . . . a poor, blind, bewilder'd erring race;
Who, a few years in varied fortune past,
Die, and are equal in the dust at last."

The Exceeding Sinfulness of Sin

THESE words are suggestive of suffering, suffering long, hard, and bitter. They speak of knowledge of sin's hideousness, gained through contact with it. They speak of human lives, the pride of which was labor and sorrow; for it is soon gone and we fly away. Surely John Keats was not too pessimistic when he wrote:

"The weariness, the fever and the fret
Here, where men sit and hear each other groan;
Where palsy shakes a few sad last gray hairs,
Where youth grows pale and spectre-thin, and dies;
Where but to think is to be full of sorrow
And leaden-eyed despair."

Surely man's contact with sin, whose penalty is death, has been a never-to-be-forgotten and much-to-be-learned-from experience. Fallen man, beguiled, blinded, deceived, misguided! But soon, full soon, man, resurrected and disillusioned, will hold at a great discount the Satanic-Platonic inherent-human-immortality-theory lie, so prized and cherished by the race in the past!

Man in Degradation

WHEN the past of man's history passes my mental vision in panorama, I stand embarrassed, aghast, staring, before those most horrible and detestable scenes which present themselves. What wicked crimes, prompted by misguided or foiled passion, have been committed in the name of truth, righteousness, and even Christianity!

Christendom (not to go further back along the roll of the centuries), think of a Bartholomew night in 1529, four centuries back. In one week were foully murdered in cold blood, at the instigation of Catharine de Medici, eighty thousand men, women and helpless children, France's best and noblest. France, "the street of the great city which spiritually is called Sodom and Egypt"! "How long, O Lord, dost thou not judge and avenge our blood on them that dwell on the earth?"—Revelation 11:8; 6:10; 20:4.

A revolting event. But, but only three and a half centuries past, and "the great slaughter of Bartholomew was put into the shade by 'the Bartholomew of five years', as the massacre

of the [French] Revolution has been called," says H. Grattan Guinness. The reign of the guillotine was followed by that of the sword. During the twenty-two years that the Napoleonic wars raged, millions died on Europe's sanguinary battlefields as victims to man's ambition and greed.

My thoughts go further back—to the centuries when the Papacy flourished. Did not man then degrade that grand gift from God, the reasoning faculty, to devise the most efficient means and the most fiendish implements for providing excruciating bodily torture to his fellow-man? Enough! why go back there? What a moral collapse, accompanied by nameless misery and suffering, of the present so-called civilized world, "Christendom," presented itself within the last decade!

Yet More Suffering?

THE suffering which this retrospect reveals is overwhelming; yet for each individual sufferer it was comparatively short. It is, therefore, in its turn put into the shade by that horrible preposterous proposition that the time now is, and still will be forever, when millions of human souls are and will be subject to "conscious misery, eternal in duration." Even depraved human nature when considering this blasphemous assertion (witness the intelligent heathen who repudiate it when told about it), is forced to violent revolt against it. Someone has argued that "God is served by appreciation of the æsthetic, as well as by the singing of psalms." If there is anything in this view, what a pity, then, that so much literature should be soiled and disfigured by this thought, expressed in all sincerity!

Of course, it is derisively that a Byron mentions

" . . . that eternal fry
Of almost everybody born to die."

On the contrary, however, it is with telling emphasis that a Dante Alighieri announces the superscription above the portal of his "Inferno":

"Through me you pass into the city of woe:
Through me you pass into eternal pain:
Through me among the people lost for aye. . . .
Abandon all hope, ye who enter here."

But they are not only poets who have used hand and head to give their conception of such

a horrifying place. I think, for instance, of a Gustav Doré, who used his extraordinary talent as draughtsman to illustrate Dante's "Inferno" and Milton's "Paradise Lost". I think of an honored preacher like C. H. Spurgeon, who claimed that at death the so-called immortal soul would be tormented alone; but that at the resurrection "thy body will be joined to thy soul, and then thou wilt have twin Hells, thy soul sweating drops of blood, and thy body suffused with agony. In fire, exactly like that we have on earth, thy body will lie, asbestos like, for ever unconsumed."

I think of J. Furniss (his name is suggestive enough), who said:

"Little child, if you go to Hell, there will be a devil at your side to strike you. He will go on striking you every minute for ever and ever without stopping. The first stroke will make your body as bad as the body of Job." "And at every stroke the poor kiddie's body will become another time as bad as Job's!" (This time the body goes with the soul!) And if you enquire at Hell's portal what it is doing the devils will reply, "The child is burning."

I also think of the "endless misery" described by E. B. Pusey—"fierce, fiery eyes of hate, spite, frenzied rage, ever fixed on thee, looking thee through and through with hate . . . yells of blasphemy, concentrated hate, as they echo along the lurid vault of Hell."

And then these gentlemen assert in the same breath that this is "good tidings of great joy"; that this is the work of Jehovah, in which He will for ever take delight; and that such misery is a just recompense of reward.

An Utter Impossibility

BUT what a monster must be the being who inflicts such a punishment, who uses such a means to maintain his authority! Or can anyone conceive of an omnipotent being who by such a method would force service and obedience and devotion to him? Does not even frail man detest and despise, and quite rightly too, coercion in any form?

Oh, no, no! Everywhere creation extols the omnipotence and supreme wisdom of the Creator of the universe. That Being must be likewise perfect in love and justice. The Psalmist of Israel knew this: "The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and plenteous in mercy. He will not always chide; neither will

he keep his anger for ever." (Psalm 103:8, 9) For His anger is but for a moment; but His favor is for a lifetime.

Yes; the lifetime of a perfect man—for ever. God's kindness knows no bounds. The Supreme Being's character does not permit of His being a Moloch.

God's Provision for Man

WHAT it must have cost His Father heart, filled with unspeakable love, to sacrifice His Son for man's sin. Yet it is finished. The way of deliverance from the curse has been opened. "The Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, hath prevailed." (Revelation 5:5) "He hath poured out his soul unto death." (Isaiah 53:12) In due time, through the merit of this sacrifice, He will deliver from the power of death and the grave all such as are willing to serve Him.

Even now the high and lofty One who inhabits eternity, whose name is Holy, dwells with such as are of a contrite and humble spirit.

His justice demands instruction in righteousness before judgment. He is infallible, immutable. His Word cannot be moved nor disannulled. He shall yet "turn to the people a pure language"—an uncontaminated truth. Then all shall know Him, "from the least unto the greatest of them." Then God will dwell with man, "and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain." "Sorrow and sighing shall flee away."

The wise man of old prophetically explains this:

"For the upright shall dwell in the land, and the perfect [made so by Messiah's reign] shall remain in it. But the wicked shall be cut off from the earth, and the transgressors shall be rooted out of it."—Proverbs 2:21, 22.

The Psalmist also emphasizes the matter in terse language: "The wicked shall return to sheol, even all the nations that forget God" (Psalm 9:17, *R. V.*)—who, after having been resurrected, do not heed His instruction in righteousness. But as for each who does give heed to that gracious invitation, says another of God's inspired writers:

"His flesh shall be fresher than a child's: he shall return to the days of his youth."—Job 33:25.

Messiah's Day Now Dawning

AND behold the morning of Messiah's thousand-year day is dawning, the day which will bring the complete passing away of Death's reign and Sin's dark night: "Weeping may endure for a night, but joy cometh in the morning."—Psalm 30:5.

And what about the clouds of this day of trouble and distress, which must needs accompany the dissolution by force of Satan's long established empire of iniquity? These clouds may for a moment hide the blue sky where morning appears. But the King of kings and Lord of lords is present; and in righteousness, He whose name is Faithful and True is now judging and making war upon the religious-political abominations of the earth. Therefore "we give thee thanks, O Lord God Almighty, which art, and wast; . . . because thou hast taken to thee thy great power, and hast reigned. And the nations were angry, and thy wrath is come and the time of the dead that they should be judged, and that thou shouldest give reward unto thy servants the prophets, and to the saints, and them that fear thy name, small and great; and shouldest destroy them which destroy the earth."—Revelation 11:17, 18.

Full soon the kingdom of righteousness shall be firmly established upon the ruins of Satan's empire; "and all nations shall flow unto it." What avenues of life, liberty and happiness this opens up for the poor groaning human race. the Psalmist rejoiced to see this glad day of the Son of Man: "Let the floods clap their hands: let the hills be joyful together before the Lord: for he cometh to judge the earth; with righteousness shall he judge the world, and the people with equity."—Psalm 98:8, 9.

Ah, that all men would stop to consider that they are rational beings, that they would think and hearken, that they would seek and find—seek meekness, seek righteousness, that they might be hid in the day of the Lord's anger; and search for life everlasting! For Jesus himself made the promise, "He that liveth [when I establish my kingdom] and believeth in me [render himself in obedience to my terms] shall never die."

"The time is come; and millions now living, when thus obedient, will never die. Therefore, "Blessed is he that considereth the poor [weak or sick (*margin*)]]: The Lord will deliver him

in time of trouble [in the day of evil (*margin*)]. The Lord will preserve him, and keep him alive; and he shall be blessed upon the earth."—Psalm 41:1, 2.

"These sayings are faithful and true" is the seal which Jesus sets to Jehovah's promises, in the Revelation which He gave to His servant John.

Palestine and Southern California *By Judge Bernard A. Rosenblatt*

[Member of the Board of Directors of the Keren Hayesod. Address broadcast by Station WBBR]

PALESTINE is the Southern California of the East. What Los Angeles, San Diego and the Imperial Valley are to the Pacific, Jerusalem, Haifa and the Dead Sea region are to the Mediterranean. In Los Angeles I was asked: "But what are the differences between California and Palestine?" and my invariable answer was: "There is really only one fundamental difference, a big difference that we in America understand in concrete form—a difference of about three or four hundred million dollars. When you add to Palestine the amount of money spent upon the marvelous roads of Southern California, upon the mansions of Pasadena and the orange groves of the Redlands, you will have almost an exact duplicate of our American 'glorious southland'.

The comparison between Palestine and Southern California holds good not only with respect to climate and vegetation, but also with respect to area, accessibility, and fertility. From the harbor of the city of Los Angeles to the Mexican Border is a distance almost equal to the distance in Palestine from Jaffa to the edge of the peninsula of Sinai (the outpost of Egypt). From Los Angeles north to Santa Barbara is a distance almost equal to the distance from Jaffa to the boundary of Palestine on the north. Again, from the Pacific Ocean inland to the desert that lies east of San Bernardino, is a distance not greater than from the Mediterranean to the Syrian Desert; and the Imperial Valley fulfils the function of a Dead Sea region. Southern California proper, excluding the desert, is not more than 25,000 square miles; and Palestine, over which Great Britain holds the Mandate from the League of Nations, is not less than 20,000 square miles.

In order to reach the fertile lands of the Mississippi Valley from Southern California, one must traverse the desert of Utah and Arizona. Even so, the Palestinian merchant who goes east must cross the Syrian desert in order to

reach the fertile fields of Mesopotamia and the valley of the Euphrates. In latitude, the two districts represent a striking similarity, Southern California lying between 32 degrees and 35 degrees 30 minutes, north latitude, while Palestine is situated between 31 degrees and 33 degrees 30 minutes, north latitude. Palestine is a land of the sea and the mountains; and the two sometimes meet, as at Haifa where the Carmel mountains literally run into the Mediterranean. At Santa Monica, the famous seaside resort of Los Angeles, the mountains meet the Pacific Ocean; Mt. Lowe, towering above Pasadena, resembles Safed, overlooking Tiberias and the Sea of Galilee. The fact is that geographical location, latitude and the presence of the three group factors of history—the desert, the sea and the mountains—have produced similar effects on the American western coast and on the eastern shores of the Mediterranean Sea.

Traveling through Palestine in the worst season of the year, I saw the sand and the stones in all their barrenness, until I was ready to find fault with those who told us about the beauties of the Palestinian sky, etc. It is all true. The sky is beautiful. A moonlight ride from the Mount of Olives to Jaffa is an event which lives through one's life. But after seeing Palestine, I often thought that orators talked so much about the sky because they preferred not to tell of the earth, the sand and the stones, the desert and the semi-desert.

It was therefore with mingled feelings of hope and fear that I left Palestine, until the fears were dispelled by Southern California. As my train pulled through the desert of Utah, from Salt Lake City to Los Angeles, on September 23 and 24, I had before me a picture almost identical with what I had beheld on July 24 and 25, while traveling in a British military train from Port Said to Jaffa. The same immense hills, the same beautiful sky, the same cold night and hot day. And as we began to

near the town of San Bernardino, two hours from Los Angeles, I thought that I was passing through the Jewish colonies of Rehoboth and Rishon-Le-Zion, less than an hour from Jaffa. In each case, as if by magic, the sand turns into orange groves or fields of grapevines. Of course, there is more of it in Southern California; but that is the difference of the several hundred million dollars.

In Palestine, one of the most pleasant of all my experiences was the trip from Haifa to Tiberias, on the highway leading past the city of Nazareth. The whole road is a ridge of mountains and below is the Valley of Esdrelon, the famous Emek Jesreel, like an immense up-turned saucer. Descending from Mt. Lowe and Mt. Wilson, in Southern California, the traveler sees another Armageddon, only this time it is the valley in which Los Angeles is located. The big physical difference between the two sections is that in Southern California we miss the Lake of Tiberias, the Jordan and the Dead Sea, a fact which brings to mind that so-called "arid" Palestine has far more water than has the district of which Los Angeles is the metropolis.

An old resident in Los Angeles said to me: "If all the people of Southern California should fall asleep for a period of two weeks, the country would return to its native state—the southwestern extension of the 'Great American Desert.' Every plant and every flower in Southern California requires the constant care and the well-regulated toil that only a high civilization can command." And yet the people who could remake Palestine have been asleep not for two weeks, but for nearly 2,000 years. Everyone in Los Angeles subscribed to my statement that Southern California is a "man-made country"; that it, was, literally, made when the capital of the East met the energy of the West. Furthermore, as capital is always timid, the Westerners had to hustle in order to induce money to come into their country, so that Los Angeles has become the land of the "booster", and is known as the "boomed" town par excellence.

And this is just as it should be; for Southern California could have been redeemed from the desert only through large investments and by tremendous effort. In the fertile valleys of the East, and on the prairies of Illinois and Kansas, the individual settler erected his shack in

the olden days; and gradually, as he saved his income from crop after crop, he was able to build a fine home, to buy a car and to invest his money in banks and life insurance companies, which, in turn, used their funds to build up the country.

But such a plan is impossible, is unthinkable, in a desert or in an arid region; for the initial investment required in bringing water (without which everything else is truly built on sand), means an outlay which can come only through a group of capitalists or a much larger group of many thousand settlers, working in coöperation. Southern California had the good fortune to secure both of these agencies; for an enlightened, vigorous and able group of Western Americans united their municipal governments, their chambers of commerce, and their many industrial clubs to induce Eastern capitalists to make large investments in their district. And so they were able to bring down water from the mountains to Los Angeles, to build an artificial harbor at San Pedro, to concentrate three transcontinental railroads in Los Angeles, to build the famous resorts of Pasadena, Santa Monica, and Santa Barbara, etc. In every case, money had to be spent for years before the possibility of any return on the investment. But when profits began to come in, acres that were formerly worth one dollar each are now covered with orange groves valued at \$1,000 and more per acre.

The identical problem exists in Palestine. Anyone who thinks the task an easy one should talk—as I have talked—to a pioneer in Los Angeles, who has lived in Southern California for fifty-three years. He told me that the task seemed impossible, and that only American energy and American money could have conquered in so short a time; for he recalled that thirty years ago most of the country was still a desert.

As Southern California drew on America, so will Palestine, the land sacred to three religions, draw on the whole world. A beautiful California offered to the civilization of the West not only a health-giving climate but also interest and dividends. Even so will the Holy Land offer to the world not merely spiritual beauty but also material rewards which will be measured in dollars and cents. The Land of Promise will soon begin to redeem its promise.

Rapture of the Angels

[Radiocast from Watchtower WBBR on a wave length of 272.6 meters, by Judge Rutherford.]

"Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men."—Luke 2:14.

THESE words were not spoken by men, but were sung by the angels. Nor was it the song of a few, but that of a multitude of the heavenly host. It was the expression of ecstatic joy and delight of the celestial choir.

The words of that glorious song were prophetic. Their importance may be approximated when we call to mind that for more than 1900 years the entire groaning creation of earth has waited for their fulfilment. The importance of the message is magnified when we remember that during all those 1900 years, and many centuries prior thereto, the Almighty God of heaven has been making ready for the full tangible expression and manifestation of what was prophesied in that angelic anthem.

God's Organization

THE better we understand Jehovah's plan, the more fully we appreciate the fact that He has the most wonderful of all organizations. His majesty and dignity preclude Him from giving direct attention to the details and the execution of His orders. From His eternal throne in the highest heaven He exercises His power as He may will. In the offices of His heavenly courts there are different creatures, as indicated by their names. Some are called cherubim, some seraphim, and some angels. It may be properly said that the angels are messengers and executive officers of the great Jehovah.

Jehovah's revealed record shows that He sends angels on important missions as His messengers and ambassadors, to represent His cause and to act as executive officers in the carrying out of His holy will.

When God expelled Adam and Eve from Eden, He put the cherubim on guard to see that His decree was enforced.

When Abraham dwelt in the land of the Chaldees he received a message from God to go into the land of Canaan. That message was brought to him by God's holy angel. Abraham was obedient to the command, and went.

When Abraham dwelt on the plains of Mamre God sent His angelic messenger, directing Abraham to offer his son Isaac. Abraham journeyed to the present site of Jerusalem for

that purpose. When, obedient to God's will, Abraham was about to offer up Isaac, twice the angel of God called to him out of heaven, commanding him what he should do.

When God prepared to execute His just decree against Egypt and her first-born, He sent His angel as His executive officer to perform this work.

When the children of Israel were fleeing out of Egypt from the wrath of Pharaoh, and when they were seemingly entrapped and were about to be destroyed on the shore of the Red Sea, the angel of the Lord, as the officer of the Almighty God, majestically went before the people of Israel and led them to safety.—Exodus 14:19.

Angels in Official Capacity

THE proof is conclusive that for many centuries Jehovah had been dealing with the people of Israel, communicating with them, giving them the Law, guiding and directing them in the course which they should take, using them to make shadows and pictures of future things to come; and that in all of His ministrations He had been using angels in an official or representative capacity.

Now the hour approached for the happening of the greatest event of the ages. He who shall be the great King of kings and the Redeemer of man was about to be brought forth upon the earth. Surely it is to be expected that God would use His good angels in connection with this, the greatest of all events; and that these angels, in the performance of this duty, would be filled with ecstasy and delight. It was a climax in their official life.

It should thrill the heart of man to realize and appreciate that angels are not mere myths, but are mighty creatures, acting in an official capacity in carrying out God's orders; and that men who devote themselves to the Lord are privileged to be used with these invisible and mighty ones. Of course, the word "angel" means messenger, and may be applied to earthly creatures, also. Therefore the earthly and the heavenly may work in exact harmony, both to the Lord's glory.

It did not please God to have His beloved Son born in the greatest city of the world. Satan would have claimed the honor. But God made the place of His beloved Son's birth celebrated in the hearts of all those who love him. Bethlehem, a quiet little town lying to the south of Jerusalem, was selected. There Jehovah had caused some types or pictures to be made, foreshadowing the coming of greater events.

Bethlehem was once the home of Boaz, whose fields the beautiful Ruth gleaned, which fields and Ruth Boaz redeemed, and afterwards he married her. (Ruth 4:1-10) Thus the Lord Jehovah pictured how Jesus would first redeem the Church as His Bride and marry her, and that the redemptive price would extend to all the peoples of the earth. God made this place sacred to the hearts of the Jews. He had foretold the place of birth through His prophet.—Micah 5:2.

Away to the north lay the little despised town of Nazareth. It was the home of the humble carpenter, Joseph. He was espoused to Mary, a descendant of David. The angel of the Lord had already informed Joseph and Mary what would transpire. The day of the birth of the child God had timed to fit exactly the surroundings and conditions. The Romans were in control of Palestine. The haughty ruler had issued a decree that all peoples should be taxed, and that each individual should report at a certain place for registration. Joseph and Mary must go to Bethlehem. The long and tedious journey was undertaken. The woman, heavy-burdened with child, sat upon the back of an ass. Joseph, with his staff, walked by her side, and toiled over the rugged hills on to the south to the place about to be made the most noted on earth.

Arriving at Bethlehem, they found the town crowded and all places of accommodations occupied. Applying at one place after another they were turned away. Finally they were forced to take shelter in a place provided for the cattle. There they lay down to rest for the night. All Israel was in expectancy of the event about to transpire. Since the days of Abraham and the promise God had made to him they had looked for the coming of the Messiah. Each devout mother of Israel hoped that she might be thus honored to give birth to that child.

The Birth and the Witnesses

IT did not please Jehovah to have His beloved Son brought into the world amidst the blare of trumpets and the tramp of the military hosts. He did not choose to have the humble city of Bethlehem decorated with flags and banners. All the preparations that earth could have made, all the pomp and glory that man could have produced, would have been but a tawdry tinsel and sham, tending only to detract from the glorious thing about to transpire. God purposed that the devil should take no credit out of the birth of this mighty Seed of Promise.

For centuries Jehovah had been preparing for this great event, and with each successive step He had used His angelic officer to mark the way. Now He sent a special angelic messenger, a minister plenipotentiary, to the earth to make announcement and to give witness to the earth of the coming of the great Redeemer. It was in the night time, picturing how the entire world lies in darkness and sin and death. The great Light was about to come into the earth and to shine into the minds and hearts of those who were humble and ready to receive it.

The poverty of Joseph and Mary was befitting, and in strong contrast with the glorious heavenly players in this mighty drama. What a great thrill must have gone through the creatures of heaven! All the heavenly host must have been on the alert as to what was now about to transpire. The specially honored messenger moved forward to his position of vantage. At the given moment this angelic officer stood forth and delivered his message, which has thrilled the hearts of millions of people down through the age. With authority he said: "Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day, in the city of David, a Savior, which is Christ the Lord."—Luke 2:10, 11.

This angelic officer was not alone. God had provided him with an angelic train, a mighty host to accompany him to earth on his wonderful mission. With befitting dignity these stood by until the honored officer had delivered his message; and then this great multitude of heavenly creatures stood forth, praising God as they sang: "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men."

Since the creation of man no event compared

to this had transpired. Mark well whom the Lord chose for His earthly witnesses to establish the fact in the minds of men. The Pharisees and the financiers, the lawyers and the priests, the wise men, big business, big politicians and big preachers who ruled Israel—not one of these was honored by being asked to witness to the birth of the Master. The reason why is that they were a part of the devil's organization. God honors them that honor Him. To please God we must worship Him in spirit and in truth.

A little band of shepherds had brought their flock to a hillside across the ravine to the east of Bethlehem. These were humble men, earning an honest living. They trusted the Lord and the promises He had made to father Abraham. They had brought their sheep into the corral, and there kept one of their number on watch to guard the flock from the wild beasts while the others slept.

The angel of the Lord appeared unto them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them. Evidently the reflected glory of the Lord, sent forth from His angel, attracted their attention; for they all were awakened and listened to the message delivered by this heavenly officer. These shepherds humbly hurried forward to see the child and to relate their testimony to others. They took no credit to themselves. Had they belonged to the devil's organization they would have swaggered about and said: Behold, what honored men we are. Look up to us.

On the contrary, the shepherds gave glory to God and praise unto Him for all the things that they had heard and seen, and that were told them. This is in exact harmony with all of God's arrangements. God resists the proud, and shows His favor to the humble-minded. (1 Peter 5:5) All of His intelligent creatures should learn a lesson from this. He that exalts himself shall be abased, but he that humbly submits himself to God's holy will in due time shall be exalted.

The Great Conspiracy

DID not God send three wise men from the East to be witnesses to the birth of His beloved Son? Should not we revere the memory of these three wise men? Herein has that old serpent, Satan, deceived the people. He has

kept prominently before the minds of the people the three wise men as though they were sent of God. To answer the above questions properly we must look for a moment at Satan's organization.

Jehovah uses good angels. Satan, the devil, is a mimic god. He first deceived and drew after him a number of the angels of heaven, who became evil; and these the devil uses in his organization to blind the people to God's plan of salvation.

Satan knew that God had declared that the "seed of promise" should bruise the head of the serpent and his seed, and that the promised seed should bless all the families of the earth. Satan, through his emissaries, set out to destroy this seed. He had been in Eden, the garden of God; and from the time Adam was driven therefrom Satan has resorted to every known means to destroy those who have striven to be obedient to the Lord. He sought to have Sarah debauched and Abraham killed. He attempted the death of Jacob by Esau, and incited Saul to kill David. He caused the persecution of all the prophets. He sought the death of Mary and the unborn babe. From all these wicked attempts God protected His own.

The so-called wise men were astrologers or soothsayers who lived in the East, doubtless Persia, well known to be of those who communicate with evil spirits. They saw a light rise to the west, and were instructed by an unseen power to follow this light. This light was called a star, but stars do not move about in this manner. The devil and his angels exercise this power even today, and cause lights to move about to deceive others. These wise men were dupes of the adversary and his angels, therefore readily fell into the conspiracy. They did not go directly to Bethlehem, where they would have gone if God had sent them. They first went to Jerusalem and presented themselves to Herod. And why? Because Herod belonged to the devil, as his prior and subsequent acts show. The devil knew that Herod would want to kill the babe; therefore he drew these wise men into the conspiracy with Herod for the purpose of destroying the babe Jesus. In this attempt God thwarted him, and delivered His beloved child.

To cover up his nefarious work and blind the people to the truth, Satan has induced the

clergy throughout the age to magnify these wise men in the eyes of the people and to have Christmas cards printed with their pictures on them, and has caused people to worship lights and stars and the images of the wise men. All of these emanate from the devil.

Angelic Anthem a Prophetic Statement

THE rapture of the angels expressed in this glory-song could not be understood at that time. The understanding began at Pentecost, and has been given to the people of God since; and in due course all the families of the earth shall know it, when the knowledge of the glory of the Lord fills the earth as the waters fill the deep. The angels here were declaring that all glory and honor should be given to God, and that from heaven comes this manifestation of His love for mankind; that while the earth was in distress and sorrow, the time would come when there would be peace on earth, when the good will of God would be shown unto all men, and all who were of right condition of heart would receive it.

The song was a prophetic one; for it foretold events to happen in the future. It was in harmony with what God had spoken through the mouth of His holy prophets long before when He said: "For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder; and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace." (Isaiah 9:6) Here the Prophet pointed forward to the time when this blessed child, now born, would become the great Ruler of the earth, upon whose shoulders the government would rest; and that He, the Prince of Peace, would bring life, peace, happiness and good will to mankind.

Jesus came to earth that He might give His own life a ransom for mankind—not that He might be ministered unto and made much over, but that He might be the minister and servant and die for man's redemption.—Matthew 20: 28.

Let the haughty learn from this that the greatest One ever on earth was the humblest one ever on earth; and that because of His humility and obedience God hath highly exalted Him above all others. God will exalt none other except those who are obedient to Him.

The birth, death, and resurrection of the Lord opened the way that mankind might have life; and that those who are of the Body of Christ might have life more abundantly.—John 10: 10.

God's plan has majestically moved forward with exactness and precision. "Known unto God are all his works, from the beginning." (Acts 15: 18) When He laid the foundation of the earth as a habitation for man, the Morning Stars sang together and all the sons of God shouted for joy. At that time Lucifer was in harmony with Jehovah, and doubtless was one of the Stars. The Morning Star is clearly marked out in Revelation as Christ Jesus. (Revelation 22: 16) When He, as the active agent for Jehovah, prepared the place for man's habitation, all the angels of heaven shouted for joy.—Job 38: 6, 7.

In the unfolding of the great drama of creation from Eden to John the Baptist, the angels performed their respective parts. When Jesus left the heavenly courts and became a man, the angels knew that this was a progressive step in the divine plan; and all the hosts of heaven sang together for joy.

When the thousand years have ended, and Jesus has fully preformed His work of restoring the obedient ones of earth, then He will take a retrospective view; and He will see of the travail of his soul and be satisfied. (Isaiah 53: 11) Then to Him every knee shall bow, everything in heaven and on earth; and every tongue shall confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. (Philippians 2: 19, 11) The Psalmist says that then all the angels of heaven will praise Him; that the sun, the moon and the stars will praise Him; that all creation will sing His praises.—Psalm 148.

Change in Broadcasting Program

BEGINNING with February 12, 1925, Station WBBR, New York City (official address, 124 Columbia Heights, Brooklyn, N. Y.) 272.6 meters, broadcasts at the following hours:

Sunday, 10:00 to 11:30 a. m. and 9 to 10:30 p. m.;
Monday, Thursday, and Saturday evenings, 8:00 to 9:00. Eastern Standard Time.

STUDIES IN THE "HARP OF GOD" (JUDGE RUTHERFORD'S) LATEST BOOK



With Issue Number 60 we began running Judge Rutherford's new book, "The Harp of God", with accompanying questions, taking the place of both Advanced and Juvenile Bible Studies which have been hitherto published.



³⁸⁹His last message to the disciples just before His ascension on high clearly indicated a time coming when the watchers would know. He said unto them: "It is not for you to know the times or the seasons which the Father hath put in his own power. But ye shall receive power, after that the holy spirit is come upon you." (Acts 1:7,8) Those who are begotten of the holy spirit have the promise that the Lord will reveal to them His great truths when due to be understood. (1 Corinthians 2:9,10) These are they that walk in the light, and for them the light shines with increasing brilliancy unto the perfect day. In harmony with this, St. Paul wrote: "Of the times and the seasons, brethren, ye have no need that I write unto you. For yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so cometh as a thief in the night. For when they shall say, Peace and safety; then sudden destruction cometh upon them, as travail upon a woman with child; and they shall not escape. But ye, brethren, are not in darkness, that that day should overtake you as a thief." (1 Thessalonians 5:1-4) Plainly the Apostle tells the followers of Jesus that if they are watching the things which the Lord told them to watch, the day of the Lord will not come upon them unawares, but they will mark the fulfilment of prophecy, and in the light of its fulfilment they will discern the time of the presence of the great King. Furthermore he says to them: "Ye are all the children of light, and the children of the day; we are not of the night, nor of darkness. Therefore let us not sleep, as do others; but let us watch and be sober."—1 Thessalonians 5:5,6.

³⁹⁰We shall find that Jesus gave much evidence which enables the watcher to determine the Lord's presence. Jesus spoke in prophetic language. Prophecy means a foretelling of future events before they take place; and when they are taking place the watcher can ascertain that they are thus fulfilling the prophetic words previously spoken.

³⁹¹Jesus gave us the positive evidence as to when to expect Him. He gave a parable of the wheat and the tares, saying, "The kingdom of heaven is likened unto a man which sowed good seed in his field: but while men slept, his enemy

came and sowed tares among the wheat, and went his way. But when the blade was sprung up, and brought forth fruit, then appeared the tares also. So the servants of the householder came and said unto him, Sir, didst not thou sow good seed in thy field? from whence then hath it tares? He said unto them, An enemy hath done this. The servants said unto him, Wilt thou then that we go and gather them up? But he said, Nay; lest while ye gather up the tares, ye root up the wheat with them. Let both grow together until the harvest: and in the time of harvest I will say to the reapers, Gather ye together first the tares and bind them in bundles to burn them; but gather the wheat into my barn."—Matthew 13:24-30.

³⁹²Interpreting His own parable, Jesus said that He was the man who had sown the good seed; that the field is the world; and that the good seed are the children of the kingdom, and that the tares are the children of the wicked one; that the enemy who sowed them is the devil; and that the harvest is the end of the world.—Matthew 13:37-39.

QUESTIONS ON "THE HARP OF GOD"

Did the Lord promise the disciples that after they received the holy spirit they might know concerning His second coming? ¶ 389.

What Scriptural promise is given the Christian that he shall have revealed to him these things in due time? ¶ 389.

What did St. Paul, after he had received the holy spirit, writing under inspiration to the Thessalonians, say about the times and seasons and the second coming of the Lord? ¶ 389.

Should we expect the watching Christians to be in darkness as to the time of the Lord's appearing? ¶ 389.

How did Jesus speak concerning His second coming? ¶ 390.

What is the meaning of prophecy as relating to the Lord's presence? ¶ 390.

Does the fulfilment of prophecy enable the watcher to determine about the Lord's presence? ¶ 390.

In what way did Jesus use the natural harvest to illustrate His second coming? ¶ 391.

Repeat the parable of the wheat and the tares, and give the Scriptural interpretation of it. ¶ 391, 392.

PALESTINE THE NEW

March 12th the world observes a new Trans-Atlantic service.

Palestine is to be reached directly from New York. The initial expedition carries settlers from America, settlers imbued with the spirit of building new worlds, returning to their homeland.

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