

the
PLAIN TRUTH
a magazine of understanding

VOLUME XXII, NUMBER 12

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This is Africa along the Congo River in the heat of the day. What is Africa really like? How much progress have the natives made? What do African Negroes think of American Negroes?—these questions are answered in this issue!

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HERBERT W. ARMSTRONG

Publisher and Editor

Herman L. Hoeh

Executive Editor

Roderick C. Meredith

Garner Ted Armstrong

Associate Editors

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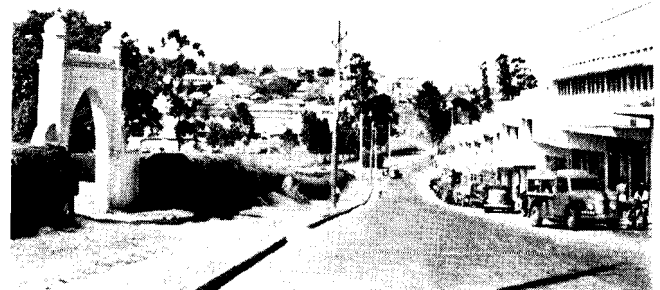
By the Radio Church of God



A typical native market in East Africa. Natives are better clothed than in the Congo. Markets are usually clearings cut out of the "bush." These markets are the center of native life in the country.

This modern commercial city in East Africa is Kampala in Uganda. In the foreground is Namirembe Road lined with shops, many operated by Indian merchants. Notice the natives with their bicycles.

—Pegas Studio, Nairobi



Much of Africa is mountainous. In East Africa, volcanic activity affords gently sloping hillsides which the natives cultivate by hand with hoes. Women do most of the work. These semi-terraced strips of cultivated areas prevent erosion. This area of Africa is beautiful with a pleasant climate.



A native village in Equatorial Africa. In this rainy climate the mud houses have to be rebuilt often. No storage place for food is necessary as food ripens all year around. Laziness is prevalent.

—Pegas Studio, Nairobi



What AFRICAN Negroes Expect of AMERICAN Negroes

The RACE QUESTION continues to boil over. To give you an inside report of what is happening in Africa today, we sent Herman L. Hoeh and Dr. C. Paul Meredith to Africa this past summer. What they found may shock many of you!

by Herman L. Hoeh

THE AMERICAN Negro has not been told about what is really going on inside Africa today. He has not been told about what the Negro in Africa *expects of him*.

Nor is the American Negro usually made aware of his responsibility to the millions of his race who live in Africa today. America is a land of opportunity and living here does impose responsibility on Negroes who enjoy its blessings.

Dr. Meredith and I found it necessary to cover about 8,000 miles in Africa. We journeyed by air; by car; by boat; and on foot. We conversed in French with the natives along the Congo River. We walked through the Ituri forest and visited the Pygmies.

We saw the Negro king of Uganda. Our native guide in East Africa was the husband of the Queen's special friend. We talked with natives both through interpreters and also in English. Because of European schools for natives the international languages of Africa are English and French.

Now to reveal what the African Negro expects of the American Negro. First, we need to fill in some of the important background—to explain what the *real* Africa is like today.

Two Questions You Need to Understand

The trip brought to our attention two vital questions:

(1) Why did the white man originally come to Africa? (2) Does the Negro want the white man to leave Africa *now*?

How many of you really know *why* the white man came to Africa?

We are told, generally, that he came only to enslave the Negro.

That it NOT true! What you are *not* told is the REAL REASON why the vast majority of whites came to Africa.

Did you ever notice that the greater portion of the British Commonwealth in Africa today is made up of PROTECTORATES? Why did the British form Protectorates? Because they generally came to Africa to *protect* the black man!

In large portions of Central Africa, East Africa, West Africa—yes, and for that matter portions of South Africa—NATIVE CHIEFS AND NATIVE KINGS REQUESTED THE WHITES TO COME TO AFRICA!

Here's why—(1) to teach the natives what they did not know, (2) to free the Negro from the Arab slave trade, (3) to *free their tribes from the slave trade imposed by OTHER NEGRO TRIBES* and by European slavers along coastal regions.

It was a surprise to us to realize that *many thinking Africans today recognize that the white man came to Africa to save Africa for the Africans!—and even to save one African from another!*

It is the Negro who asked the European powers to come to his continent to teach him to conquer his environment, to enable him to live at peace, and to be free from the slave trade.

But very few Negroes in America or in Africa are told about that today!

Why?

Because those who aspire to be political leaders in America or Africa are *not as concerned about their own people* as they are in gaining political office for their own selfish advantage.

Missionaries Haven't Solved the Problem

Europeans came also as missionaries. When the missionaries came to Africa, they dressed the African up when he didn't want to be dressed. They took away his wars when he wanted to fight. They took away his dances when he wanted to dance. But they have given nothing permanent that has replaced those desires in the African heart. The scores of religious denominations professing to speak for Christ have confused the African.

The natives asked us many times, "Why did white missionaries teach us to live at peace when white Europe has been the cause of all the modern wars?—the cause of wars in the last 2000 years? Why do you who profess Christianity force us to live at peace, *when we wanted to fight one another, when we wanted to steal one another's cows?* And yet YOU fight one another, and now threaten to bomb us all off the face of the earth?"

We had the answer for the many who posed that very question. Our guide in East Africa also asked us this question. This guide took us 1300 miles by automobile into the heart of Africa, 9000 feet up into bamboo forests, to the swamps of the upper reaches of the Congo, to the Mountains of the Moon where Natives still go half naked, covered only in animal skins. The guide's adopted name is Ephraim. We explained to him the answer to this problem. *We told him that not all whites are white INSIDE.*

Then we expounded to him from the

prophecy of Daniel 4.

This prophecy reveals why several European nations behave like *wild animals*—they start wars of conquest. Many whites are "wild nations" as were the blacks of Africa when opened to European colonization. We proved to him that the white powers of Europe would destroy the earth—unless God intervenes—before the black man ever could think deep enough to devise the tools to do so.

For the first time he saw the difference between one white nation and another—between the whites who are in the Communist world, the whites who are still secretly in the Fascist world, and the white Israelites of northwestern Europe whom God has set to bear the beacon light of peace (Genesis 26:4-5).

Our guide said his minister never explained that to him before. Most churches don't know *how* to reach Africa. God has never sent them. They have gone on their own. They cannot solve Africa's problems.

Should the White Man Leave Africa?

Now consider another question. Does the Negro want the white man to leave Africa now?

The answer is "NO."

Negroes said to us in almost every place, "We want to rule ourselves, *politically*, but we want you to stay as teachers, as instructors, as guides, because we have much yet to learn. Don't leave us now! *You* must stay here, *you* MUST teach us more."

There is one fallacy in this reasoning. The average Negro in Africa does not know that if the white man is forced to leave politically, the Negro politicians will *not* keep the white man to instruct the people. The Negro politicians who are gaining control of Africa don't want the white man to stay, even though they make pretences today that they would like to have him remain.

It is the Negro who is beneath the politician—the Negro who knows he has much to acquire—who wants the white man to stay. But it is the Negro politician who is above, who, down deep, does *not* want the white man to stay in Africa. He wants no white man

around to keep him from lording it over his fellows.

Notice what occurred in the little country of Liberia. You may remember, before the American Civil War many slaves returned to Africa. America sponsored the country of Liberia. Now what has the Negro who returned to Africa done for the Negro who was in Africa? The Negro politicians without white supervision have lorded it over the Natives ever since they came there. The native who lived in Liberia is *no better off today* than he was when the Negro from America came to Africa.

Liberia is in a very sad situation. Tin shacks line the streets. Hovels that most Negroes in America do not even live in now are commonplace in Liberia.

If Whites Were to Leave Africa NOW

What if the white man were to leave Africa today? Do you know what would happen in 20 years from now?

These same Negro politicians would be *eating* their citizens!

In 20 years, if Africa were left to the Negro with no White supervision, all that has been done in less than 75 years would be undone.

Even today, when there are riots in Africa—it doesn't matter what portion, even in the most civilized portion of South Africa—cannibalism can suddenly break forth. In a recent riot, do you know what happened to a nun who was killed? The natives ate her body!

Human flesh tastes good to the African tongue. They say it is better than monkey meat and better than elephant, better than termites and better than ants, better than vultures and better than crows. Yes, they eat all those creatures too!

We talked to many Belgians in Africa who fear that the British experiments in native self-government are a very great mistake. They said, "*We know* witchcraft and cannibalism are occurring secretly now—that cannibalism would return in a score of years to Africa, if we would let Africans rule Africa."

Most Negroes do not face up to that.

Most Negroes want to forget the past. A man who may be a lawyer, a man who may have been trained at Oxford or Cambridge in England, does not

like to have his fellows know that his father may be a half-naked savage in a forest hut.

A very great mistake has been made in the educational system in Africa. The European powers have mistakenly created a minute highly educated Negro upper class, but they have created no Negro middle class.

An important middle class is there, however. It is not basically European. It is *not* African. It is made up of Greeks and Syrians and many, many merchants from India.

The Indian Problem in Africa

We have in Africa the problem not only between black and white, we have the problem of the brown man from Asia. Many portions of East Africa and all through Central Africa, we found filled with Indian merchants who constitute the middle class. I met an Indian merchant from East Africa while we were in Greece. I asked him, "Why is there such friction between the white man and the brown man and the black man?"

The Indian said, "We are caught between two. The British don't want us there. The African knows that he does not stand a chance in competition with us as merchants and middle men. But," he said, "what would vast portions of Africa be like today if there were only the British upperclass with a few highly educated Negroes trying to take their place but no Indian middle class?"

There would certainly be a great change. Africa owes much to Indian business men. Nevertheless, Indians have often been antagonistic to whites in Africa. Most Indians don't seem to realize that there *wouldn't be any Indians left in Africa* if there were no White men to protect them from the Negroes.

What a confused world this really is! There is a multi-racial problem in Africa, the same as here in the United States and over much of the world.

Mental Difference Between Races

Now it is important that we recognize the mental difference between peoples. We were impressed that everywhere we went an African with education could

(Please continue on page 11)

The PLAIN TRUTH about CHRISTMAS!

Where did we get Christmas? . . . from the Bible or paganism? Here are astonishing FACTS which may shock you! Do you know the origin of the Christmas tree—of "Santa Claus"—of the mistle-toe, holly wreath—custom of exchanging gifts?

by Herbert W. Armstrong

DOES Christmas really celebrate the birthday of Jesus? Was He born on December 25th? Did Paul, the apostles, and the early Church of the New Testament celebrate Christmas? Do you know what the BIBLE says about the Christmas tree?

Stop and think! Very few know WHY we do the things we do, or WHERE our customs came from! We were born into a world filled with customs. We grew up practicing them, taking them for granted, but NEVER QUESTIONING WHY!

Not Christian Festival!

We have supposed CHRISTMAS to be the chief of the Christian holidays. Without asking questions, we have blindly assumed its observance must be one of the principal teachings and commands of the New Testament. We have supposed Jesus was born December 25th, and that the New Testament set this day aside as the chief Christian festival. We have supposed we exchange gifts because the wise men presented gifts to the Christ-child.

But let's quit supposing, and look into history and the Bible for the FACTS!

The word "Christmas" means "Mass of Christ," or, as it later became shortened, "Christ-Mass." It came to us as a Roman Catholic mass. And where did they get it? From the HEATHEN celebration of December 25th, as the birthday of Sol the SUN-GOD! It is, actually, an ancient rite of BAALISM, which the Bible condemns as the most abominable of all idolatrous worship!

It is not so much as MENTIONED anywhere in the New Testament. It was never observed by Paul, the apostles, the early true Christian church!

The idea that Jesus was born December 25th is one of the FABLES the

Apostle Paul prophesied (II Tim. 4:4) would deceive the world in these latter days.

The plain truth is, Christmas is NOT Christ's birthday at all! And this festival, important as it seems to so many, is not of Christian, but of pagan—Babylonish—origin! But does that make any difference? Isn't it all right to go ahead and observe it anyway? Isn't the "Christmas SPIRIT" a good and splendid thing, regardless of how it got started? WE SHALL SEE!

Jesus NOT Born December 25th

Now let's look to the interesting PROOF! When was Jesus born?

Jesus was not even born in the winter season! When the Christ-child was born "there were in the same country shepherds *abiding* in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night" (Luke 2:8). This never could have occurred in Palestine in the month of December. The shepherds always brought their flocks from the mountain sides and fields and corralled them not later than October 15, to protect them from the cold rainy season that followed that date. Notice that the Bible itself proves in Song of Solomon 2:11, and Ezra 10:9, and 13, that winter was a rainy season not permitting shepherds to abide in open fields at night.

It was an ancient custom among Jews of those days to send out their sheep to the fields and deserts about the Passover (early-spring), and bring them home at commencement of the *first rain*, says the Adam Clarke Commentary, Vol. 5, page 386.

Continuing, this authority states: "during the time they were out, the shepherds watched them night and day. As . . . the first rain began early in the

month of Marchesvan, which answers to part of our October and November [begins *mid October*], we find that the sheep were kept out in the open country during the whole *summer*. And, as these shepherds had not *yet* brought home their flocks, it is a presumptive argument that October had not yet commenced, and that, consequently, our Lord was not born on the *25th of December*, when no flocks were out in the fields; nor could He have been born later than *September*, as the flocks were still in the fields *by night*. On this very ground, the *nativity in December* should be given up. The feeding of the flocks by night in the fields is a *chronological fact* . . . See the quotations from the *Talmudists in Lightfoot*."

Any encyclopedia, or any other authority, will tell you that Christ was not born on December 25. The Catholic Encyclopedia frankly states this fact.

The exact date of Jesus' birth is entirely UNKNOWN, as all authorities acknowledge—tho if I had space in this article I could show you Scriptures which at least strongly indicate that it was in the early fall—probably September—approximately six months after Passover.

If God had wished us to observe and celebrate Christ's birthday, He would not have so completely hidden the exact date.

What Encyclopedias Say

There is not one word in the New Testament, or anywhere in the Bible, telling us to observe Christmas. The Christians of the first century, under the inspired teachings of Peter and Paul and the other apostles, never observed it. There is NO BIBLE AUTHORITY for its observance, strange as it may seem.

Then where did we get "Christmas"? Since it has come to us thru the Roman Catholic Church, and has no authority but that of the Roman Catholic Church, let us examine the Catholic Encyclopedia, published by that Church. Under the caption "Christmas," you will find:

"Christmas was *not* among the earliest festivals of the Church . . . The first evidence of the feast is from Egypt." "Pagan customs centering around the January calends gravitated to Christmas." And, further, we find this truth acknowledged: ". . . in the Scripture, *sinner*s alone, not saints, celebrate their birthday."

Encyclopedia Britannica has this: "Christmas (i.e., the Mass of Christ). Christmas was not among the earliest festivals of the church . . ." It was not instituted by Christ or the apostles, or by Bible authority—it was picked up afterward from paganism.

The Encyclopedia Americana says: "CHRISTMAS. It was, according to many authorities, not celebrated in the first centuries of the Christian church, as the Christian usage in general was to celebrate the death of remarkable persons rather than their birth . . ." (The "Communion" which is instituted by New Testament Bible authority, is a memorial of the DEATH of Christ.) ". . . a feast was established in memory of this event [Christ's birth] in the fourth century. In the fifth century the Western Church ordered it to be celebrated forever on the day of the old Roman feast of the birth of Sol, as no certain knowledge of the day of Christ's birth existed."

HOW This Pagan Custom Got Into The Church

Now notice! These recognized historic authorities show Christmas was NOT observed by Christians for the first two or three hundred years—a period longer than the entire history of the United States as a nation! It got into the Western, or Roman Church, by the FOURTH century A. D. It was not until the FIFTH century that the Roman Church ordered it to be celebrated as an official "Christian" festival!

Then HOW did this heathen custom CREEP INTO a so-called Christianity?

The Schaff-Herzog Encyclopedia explains it clearly, in its article on "CHRIST-

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Herbert W. Armstrong analyzes today's news, with the prophecies of The WORLD TOMORROW!

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MAS:" "How much the date of the festival depended upon the Pagan Brumalia (Dec. 25) following the Saturnalia (Dec. 17-24), and celebrating the shortest day of the year and the 'new sun' . . . cannot be accurately determined. The pagan Saturnalia and Brumalia were too deeply entrenched in popular custom to be set aside by Christian influence . . . The pagan festival with its riot and merrymaking was so popular that Christians were glad of an excuse to continue its celebration with little change in spirit and in manner. Christian preachers of the West and the Near East protested against the unseemly frivolity with which Christ's birthday was celebrated, while Christians of Mesopotamia accused their Western brethren of idolatry and sun-worship for adopting as Christian this pagan festival."

Remember, the Roman world had been PAGAN. Prior to the fourth century, Christians were few in number, tho increasing, and were persecuted by the government and by pagans. But, with the advent of Constantine as emperor [who made his profession of Christianity, in the fourth century, placing Christianity on an equal footing with paganism], people of the Roman world began to accept this now popular Christianity by the hundreds of thousands.

But remember, these people had grown up in PAGAN customs, chief of which was this idolatrous festival of December 25th. It was a festival of merry-making, with its special SPIRIT. They ENJOYED it! They didn't want to give it up! Now this same article in Schaff-Herzog Encyclopedia explains how the

The WORLD TOMORROW heard in Australia!

2CH—Sydney—Sat., 10:15 P.M.

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2GN—Goulburn—Sun., 10:00 P.M.

2GF—Grafton—Sun., 9:30 P.M.

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3BO—Bendigo—Thurs., 4:15 P.M.

4KQ—Brisbane—Sun., 10:30 P.M.

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4CA—Cairns—Sun., 10:00 P.M.

4WK—Warwick—Tues., 9:30 P.M.

6IX—Perth—Sun., 10:00 P.M.

7HT—Hobart—Sun., 10:25 P.M.

recognition by Constantine of Sunday, which had been the day of pagan SUN-worship, and how the influence of the pagan Manichaeism, which identified the SON of God with the physical SUN, gave these pagans of the fourth century, now turning over wholesale to "Christianity," their EXCUSE for calling their pagan-festival date of December 25th (birthday of the SUN-god), the birthday of the SON of God.

And *that* is how "Christmas" got into our so-called Christianity! We may call it by another NAME, but it's the same old pagan sun-worshipping festival still! The only CHANGE is in what we CALL IT! You can call a rabbit a "LION," but it's a RABBIT, just the same.

Again from the Britannica: "Certain Latins, as early as 354, may have transferred the birthday from January 6th to December 25, which was then a Mithraic feast, . . . or birthday of the unconquered SUN . . . The Syrians and Armenians, who clung to January 6th, accused the Romans of SUN-WORSHIP and IDOLATRY, contending that the feast of December 25th, had been invented by disciples of Cerinthus . . ."

The Real ORIGIN of Christmas

But if we got Christmas from the Roman Catholics, and they got it from paganism, where did the pagans get it? Where, when, and what was its real origin?

It is a chief custom of the corrupt system denounced all thru Bible prophecies and teachings under the name of BABYLON. And it started and originated in the original Babylon of ancient Nimrod! Yes, it stems from roots whose beginning was shortly this side of the Flood!

Nimrod, grandson of Ham, son of Noah, was the real founder of the Babylonish system that has gripped the world ever since—the system of organized competition—of man-ruled governments and empires, based upon the competitive and profit-making economic system. Nimrod built the tower of Babel, the original Babylon, ancient Nineveh, many other cities. He organized this world's first kingdom. The name Nimrod, in Hebrew, is derived from "Marad," meaning "he rebelled."

From many ancient writings, considerable is learned of this man, who started

the great organized worldly apostasy from God that has dominated this world until now. Nimrod was so evil, it is said he married his own mother, whose name was Semiramis. After Nimrod's untimely death, his so-called mother-wife, Semiramis, propagated the evil doctrine of the survival of Nimrod as a spirit being. She claimed a full-grown evergreen tree sprang overnight from a dead tree stump, which symbolized the springing forth unto new life of the dead Nimrod. On each anniversary of his birth, she claimed, Nimrod would visit the evergreen tree and leave gifts upon it. December 25th was the birthday of Nimrod.

This is the real origin of the Christmas tree.

Thru her scheming and designing, Semiramis became the Babylonian "Queen of Heaven," and Nimrod, under various names, became the "divine son of heaven." Thru the generations, in this idolatrous worship, Nimrod also became the false Messiah, son of Baal the Sun-god. In this false Babylonish system, the "Mother and Child" (Semiramis and Nimrod reborn), became chief objects of worship. This worship of "Mother and Child" spread over the world. The names varied in different countries and languages. In Egypt it was Isis and Osiris. In Asia, Cybele and Deolus. In Pagan

WHY THE PLAIN TRUTH HAS NO SUBSCRIPTION PRICE

So many ask: "How can you publish a magazine, without subscription price, and without advertising?"

The answer is simple. The GOSPEL must go to the whole world, and it must go FREE. It must not be sold like merchandise. "Freely ye have received," Jesus said to His disciples whom He was sending to proclaim the Gospel, "freely GIVE." Without money and without price, is God's way. We proclaim a FREE salvation. Therefore, we cannot put a PRICE upon The PLAIN TRUTH.

We have been called of God to conduct this work. It is not our work, but God's. We have set out to conduct God's work God's way. We rely, in FAITH, upon God's promises to supply every need.

God's way is the way of LOVE—and that is the way of giving, not getting. God expects every true child of His to GIVE of tithes and offerings that His work may go FREE—that His true ministers may GIVE the precious Gospel to others. We simply TRUST GOD to lay it on the minds and hearts of His people to give of their tithes and offerings that we may be enabled to GIVE the good things of God's Word to the hundreds of thousands who hear the Message over the air, and the scores of thousands who read The PLAIN TRUTH.

Many times our faith has been severely tried, but God has never failed us. We must not fail HIM!

Rome, Fortuna and Jupiterpuer. Even in Greece, China, Japan, Tibet are to be found the counterparts of the Madonna, long before the birth of Christ!

Thus, during the fourth and fifth centuries, when the pagans of the Roman world were "accepting" the new popular "Christianity" by the hundreds of thousands, carrying their old pagan customs and beliefs along with them, merely cloaking them with Christian-sounding NAMES, the Madonna and "Mother and Child" idea also became popularized, especially at Christmas time. Every Christmas season you'll hear sung and chanted dozens of times the hymn "Silent Night, Holy Night," with its familiar "Mother and Child" theme. We, who have been born in such a babylonish world, reared and steeped in these things all our lives, have been taught to revere these things as holy, and sacred. WE NEVER QUESTIONED TO SEE WHERE THEY CAME FROM—WHETHER THEY CAME FROM THE BIBLE, OR FROM PAGAN IDOLATRY!

We are SHOCKED to learn the TRUTH—some, unfortunately, take offense at the PLAIN TRUTH! But God commands His faithful ministers, "CRY ALOUD, spare not, lift up thy voice like a trumpet, and SHOW MY PEOPLE THEIR TRANSGRESSIONS!" Shocking as these facts are, they are the plain facts of history and the Bible!

The real origin of Christmas goes back to the ancient Babylon. It is bound up in the organized apostasy with which Satan has gripped a deceived world these many centuries! In Egypt, it was always believed that the son of Isis (Egyptian

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name for "Queen of Heaven") was born December 25th. Paganism celebrated this famous birthday over most of the known world for centuries before the birth of Christ.

December 25th is NOT the birthday of Jesus the true Christ! The apostles and early true Church never celebrated Christ's birthday at *any* time. There is no command or instruction to celebrate it in the Bible—rather, the celebrating of birthdays is a HEATHEN, not a Christian custom, believe it or not!

Nowhere does the Bible tell us to worship "Mother and Child." The apostles and early *true* Christians never did it! The Scriptures show an angel saying to Mary, "Hail, thou art highly favored, the Lord is with thee"—the addition "blessed art thou among women," is omitted in the best original manuscripts (in Greek). Elizabeth said to Mary, "Blessed art thou among women." And Mary herself said, "From henceforth all generations shall call me blessed" (Luke 1:28, 42, 48).

She *was* highly blessed by God, and this has been acknowledged by all generations from that time—but this does not mean she is to be deified, worshipped, made a divine being, when she was merely human. The wide-spread worship of Mary as "the Mother of God," the doctrine of the immaculate conception, which refers to her as counterfeit mediatrix between man and God, is a continuation of this ancient babylonian idolatry, begun by the clever deceptions of Semiramis, wife of Nimrod! It is inextricably bound up with the "Christmas" idea!

Thus the ancient idolatrous "Chaldean Mysteries," founded by this wife of Nimrod, have been handed down thru the pagan religions into the Catholic Church under new Christian-sounding names, and from there into the Protestant denominations and on to all of us today!

Origin of Holly Wreath, Mistletoe, Yule Log

Now where did we get this MISTLETOE custom? Among the ancient pagans the mistletoe was used at this festival of the winter solstice because it was considered sacred to the SUN, because of its supposed miraculous healing power. The pagan custom of kissing under the mistletoe was an early step in the night

of revelry and drunken debauchery—celebrating the death of the "old sun" and the birth of the new at the winter solstice. Mistletoe, sacred in pagan festivals, is a PARASITE!

Holly berries were also considered sacred to the sun-god. The yule log is in reality the "sun log." "Yule" means "wheel," a pagan symbol of the sun. Yet today professing Christians speak of the "sacred YULETIDE season!"

Even the lighting of fires and candles as a Christian ceremony is merely a continuation of the pagan custom, encouraging the waning sun-god as he reached the lowest place in the southern skies!

The Americana says: "The holly, the mistletoe, the Yule log . . . are relics of pre-Christian times." "PAGANISM!" The book, *Answers to Questions*, compiled by Frederick J. Haskins, found in public libraries, says: "The use of Christmas wreaths is believed by authorities to be traceable to the pagan customs of decorating buildings and places of worship at the feast which took place at the same time as Christmas. *The Christmas tree is from Egypt*, and its origin dates from a period long anterior to the Christian Era."

Yes, and Even SANTA CLAUS!

But surely dear old Santa Claus is not a creature of pagan birth? But he IS, and his real character is not so benevolent and holy as many suppose!

The name "Santa Claus" is a corruption of the name "St. Nicholas," a Roman Catholic bishop who lived in the 5th century. Look in the Encyclopedia Britannica, Vol. 19, pages 648-9, 11th edition, where you'll read: "St. Nicholas, bishop of Myra, . . . a saint honored by the Greeks and Latins on the sixth of December . . . A legend of his surreptitious bestowal of dowries on the three daughters of an impoverished citizen . . . is said to have originated the old custom of giving presents in secret on the eve of St. Nicholas [Dec. 6]. SUBSEQUENTLY TRANSFERRED TO CHRISTMAS DAY. Hence the association of Christmas with Santa Claus . . ."

Thru the year, parents punish their children for telling falsehoods. Then, at Christmas time, they themselves tell their little children this "Santa Claus" lie! Is it any wonder many of them, when they

grow up and learn the truth, begin to believe God is a myth, too?

One little fellow, sadly disillusioned about "Santa Claus," said to a playmate, "Yes, and I'm going to look into this 'Jesus Christ business,' too!" Is it CHRISTIAN to teach children myths and falsehoods? God says, "Thou shalt not bear FALSE WITNESS!" It may *seem* right, and be justified by human reason, but God says, "There is a way that *seemeth* RIGHT to a man, but the end thereof are the ways of DEATH!" "Old Nick" also is a term for the devil! Is there a connection? Satan appears as an "angel of LIGHT," to deceive!

And so when we examine the facts, we are astonished to learn that the practice of observing Christmas is not, after all, a true Christian practice, but a pagan custom—one of the ways of BABYLON our people have fallen into!

What the Bible Says About the Christmas Tree!

But if the Bible is silent about telling us to observe CHRISTMAS, or recording any such observance by the apostles or early true Church, it *does* have something to say about the Christmas tree!

This will come as a real surprise to many. But here it is:

Jeremiah 10: 1-6 "Thus saith the Lord, *Learn not the way of the heathen . . . For the customs of the people are vain; for one cutteth a TREE out of the forest, the work of the hands of the workman, with the axe. They deck it with silver and with gold; they fasten it with nails and with hammers, that it move not.*"

There is a perfect description of the Christmas tree, termed by the Eternal as "the way of the heathen—the custom of the people." We are commanded NOT to learn that way or follow it! It is also viewed in this passage as idolatry. The fifth verse shows that these trees cannot speak—cannot walk—must be carried. "Be not afraid of them, for *they* (the trees) cannot do evil, neither also is it in them to do good." They are not gods to be feared. Some people *mis*-read this to make it say there is no harm in having a Christmas tree, but that is not what it says.

But when it comes to the most im-
(Please continue on page 23)

WHY Mental Breakdowns?

Millions of frustrated human beings do not realize that man was born INCOMPLETE! Very few know of the amazing source of POWER available directly from their Maker which can be tapped to make man COMPLETE!

by Roderick C. Meredith

MENTAL patients occupy about half of all the hospital beds in the United States. More people are "cracking up" each year. Mental illness is the *most rapidly growing item* in state budgets!

We constantly read of increasing *frustrations, nervous tensions, and anxiety*. Today, hundreds of thousands of neurotics from New York to Hollywood are popping "peace of mind" pills in their mouths.

In fact, an article came out a few months ago in a national magazine entitled "Why Ministers are Breaking Down." It revealed the startling fact that in this nation even many of the ministers are increasingly plagued by mental and emotional breakdowns.

WHY SHOULD THIS SHOCKING SITUATION EXIST in our so-called "advanced" society?

The CAUSE of Breakdowns

It has been wisely observed that there is a *cause* for every effect. In attempting to solve the problem of mental and nervous breakdowns, those responsible for the health of our nation have *missed the mark*. Instead of getting at the real *root* of the problem—the CAUSE—they have attempted to remove the *effect* by the psychiatrists' couch, "pep talk" psychology, "peace of mind" pills and even stronger tranquilizing drugs.

The real CAUSE of the neurotic and the mental patient is found in the underlying *fear* and sense of *helplessness* and *frustration* that plagues the minds of most men and women in today's world. Living in a world where a hydrogen "hell" war can break loose at any moment and *destroy all humanity*, where intense *competition* and *strife* between individuals has become an accepted way of life, where one's relationship with his wife, family or friends may be *shattered* any time—living in such a world where there are no lasting values, where

speed and *ruthlessness* seem to predominate—it is no wonder that many people "crack-up" under mental and emotional strain.

The reactions of *fear, frustration* and *helplessness* in the face of these trying situations is the major CAUSE of *mental breakdown*—and of the deep sense of *insecurity* that plagues nearly everyone. Then HOW can these deep-rooted tensions and fears be overcome?

Did the Almighty God intend us to live in FEAR—or in FAITH?

The startling answer to this question is that very few people on earth today have any real knowledge of the true God or of His *purpose*. They do not know *why* they were born. They do not know *where* they are going after death. They do not have the right *goal* in life, and they do not understand the *laws of life* which would produce success and happiness now and lead them to that ultimate goal.

All of this is because they are *cut off* from personal contact with the Creator-Ruler of heaven and earth, Almighty God. Or another way of putting it is that *they do not have God's Spirit*.

And everyone of us NEEDS God's Holy Spirit! We *need* it as much as we need air to breathe, food to eat, clothing to wear.

Why the World Does Not Have God's Spirit

This is a divided and confused world. It is divided politically, religiously and in many other ways. In the midst of such confusion—and being urged to "go to the church of your choice"—most men and women have lost sight of the need to establish a *personal* relationship and contact with God.

They have been led to think that merely attending just "any" church is a sure way to salvation. They have forgotten to consider the importance of a personal, *vital* contact with God. And

they are *misinformed* as to how such a contact may be established.

It is sad but true that most people—and even most religious leaders—have what the Bible describes as a "carnal" mind. This is a mind which looks at everything from the material, fleshly standpoint of people in this world. To such people, the religious denominations of men, their councils and boards, the bishops and other religious leaders, and the individual human *members*—with all of their ideas, prejudices, and desires—these things are all very *real*. But the Eternal GOD seems far off. His Word is not nearly so decisive in determining religious practices and church policies as are the wishes of the majority of church members, the august church boards, and the high-up religious dignitaries.

Indeed, this "carnal" mind has a *positive antagonism* to God's commanding us to do anything. The person with a carnal mind will say that he wants to worship God, but he wants to do it his *own way—not God's way!*

The carnal mind resents the idea of God "ordering" it to do anything. Therefore, it *rejects* the laws and commandments of God as revealed in the Bible, and sets up a human-devised standard of righteousness. "Because the carnal mind is enmity [*or antagonistic*] against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be. So then they that are in the flesh [*carnally minded*] cannot please God" (Rom. 8:7-8).

This carnal mind which makes a "god" in its own image is essentially a frustrated and miserable mind. Although it maintains its own *intellectual* and spiritual pride by an outward show of self-assurance and often of *conceit*, underneath is gnawing realization of a state of "aloneness"—a *lack of contact* with the only, true Living God and personal power He gives, the peace of mind He alone can provide. The apostle Paul

truly states: "For to be carnally minded is *death*; but to be spiritually minded is LIFE and PEACE" (Rom. 8:6).

Therefore, we may say that most human being are *cut off* from direct contact with their Creator. They do not have His Spirit because they are not willing to OBEY Him. Paul says that their carnal mind "*is not subject to the law of God.*"

In other words, *they are not willing to let God be GOD!*

They are unwilling to let *Him* tell *them* HOW to worship—unwilling to let *Him* set the standards of right and wrong, and determine the religious practices and customs to be followed. By *rejecting* the true God, they doom themselves to the *misery, frustration* and sense of *helplessness* that is the lot of those who are *cut off* from their Maker.

Such people inwardly crave the *peace*, the *joy*, the spiritual *power* and the deep *understanding* of life which only a contact with God through His Spirit could provide. But they are *unwilling* to accept these things on *God's* terms. They are *unwilling* to worship Him in Spirit, in truth—and in *obedience!*

That is WHY the people of this world are *frustrated, neurotic* and *upset*—individually and *collectively!*

God's PURPOSE for Mankind

You did not just "happen" to be here. The evolutionary myth of a creation without a Creator is NOT true—as we have *proved* time and time again in this magazine.

You were put here for a great *purpose*. After creating this earth and all the varieties of plants and animals upon it, God said: "Let us make man in our *image*, after our *likeness*: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth" (Gen. 1:26).

Did you notice that God said "us" and "our"? Even the original Hebrew word for God in this entire account is "Elohim"—a uniplural noun meaning *more than one*. It is a word like "church" or "family." *One* family—but *several* members. *One* Church—but *many* members.

As explained in John 1:1-4 and Colossians 1:13-18, God created *all* things *by* and *through* Jesus Christ—the Divine "Word" or Spokesman of the Old Testament.

So God the Father and the Eternal Christ were saying: "Let *us* make man in *our* image." Man is made in the *form* and *shape* of those spiritual Beings who make up the God family—the God kingdom. Man is given *dominion* over all the dumb creatures and over all the plants and elements here on earth.

The human structure—particularly the *hand* of man—enables man to build, construct and accomplish things completely beyond the capabilities of any other creature.

But far more important than that, the *mind* of man is made in a limited sense *like God's mind*. Of all creatures on earth, *only* man is able to think, reason, plan and bring into existence new ideas, concepts or material structures. *Only* man has what we call "conscience"—that faculty of mind wherein resides the impressions of right and wrong, of spiritual values and principles.

While animals have limited brain capacity and are guided mainly by the instinct which God placed in their brains, man *alone* has a mind capable of understanding spiritual principles, capable of *choosing* between right and wrong, of resisting the physical desires and obeying instead a higher spiritual law.

In a word, man *alone* has the potentiality of developing righteous, spiritual CHARACTER.

At creation, the God family brought into existence beings made in their *form* and *shape*, having to a limited degree their type of creative *mind*, and having the potentiality—with outside help—of developing holy, righteous, spiritual CHARACTER as possessed by God Himself. In plain language, God was beginning the process of *reproducing* Himself!

God was bringing into existence beings who had the possibility of acquiring the kind of righteous *character* which would ultimately qualify them to become members of God's *family*—God's *kingdom*. God was starting others on a road which would lead some to eventually share in the *love*, the *wisdom*, the *glory*,

the *power* and the *responsibility* of the God family.

God has purposed to make of those of us who are willing His glorified Sons—members of His spiritual family and kingdom!

WHY You Need the Holy Spirit

The apostle Paul tells us: "For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God" (Rom. 8:14). *Only* those who are guided by God through His Spirit are receiving of His *nature* and *character* and are fulfilling the purpose for which they were born. And *only* such individuals are really Christians!

Notice! "Now if any man have *not* the Spirit of Christ, *he is none of his*" (Rom. 8:9).

It is through His Spirit that God *begets* us as His sons and begins placing within us His characteristics and power. And His Spirit is the impregnation of *eternal life*. "But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus *from* the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken [*make alive*] your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you" (Rom. 8:11).

If you are to be *resurrected* and *given eternal life*, you *MUST* have God's Holy Spirit.

But the universal NEED of God's Spirit in this life is just as important. It's presence would *completely* SOLVE the problems of *frustration, anxiety* and *mental illness* which are besetting our entire society!

The "fruits" or *results* of God's Spirit are aptly set forth by the apostle Paul. "But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance" (Gal. 5:22-23). Is the world in need of more LOVE? Of JOY? Of PEACE?

It certainly is!

And every individual desperately NEEDS every one of these characteristics of God's *nature*—His character implanted within us through a begetting of His Spirit. This is the *ONLY* way to *joyous, happy* ABUNDANT living!

We should also note that the last-mentioned characteristic of God's Spirit, "temperance," is better translated "self-control." God's Spirit gives us the *will*

(Please continue on page 14)

NOTICE: Be sure to notify us immediately of any change in your address. Please include both old and new addresses. IMPORTANT!



Our guide Ephraim, who took us over 1300 miles through Central Africa. Here we asked him to stand at the equator marker in Uganda. A banana plantation graces the background.



A Pygmy and his two wives posed for us before his "home" in the Ituri Forest. These people construct temporary dwellings of sticks and banana leaves. They remain seldom longer than three weeks in one location. Notice the man's smile!

What the AFRICAN Negro Expects of the AMERICAN Negro

(Continued from page 4)

do what a White Man does.

Let us take an illustration. A white man lays railroad tracks. He teaches the African to do so. The African lays the railroad tracks. Then the white man sends the train along. He teaches the Negro to run the train, to be an engineer. The Negro now runs the train. Next, he teaches the Negro to mine. The Negro now mines the metal to make the train. The Whites teach the Negro how to manufacture the train cars and engine. Now the Negro helps produce them.

BUT IF THE WHITE MAN WOULD LEAVE, who would *continue* to make the train? Who would *continue* to be the engineer? Who would *continue* to lay the track?

No one!

Because the African would not drive himself to keep things in repair—would not drive himself mentally to make

progress. *That* is the obvious difference in racial ability which one sees in Africa today. The one can do what the other can do, but the one must *show* the other how to do it *in the first place*.

Is There Something WRONG with Civilization?

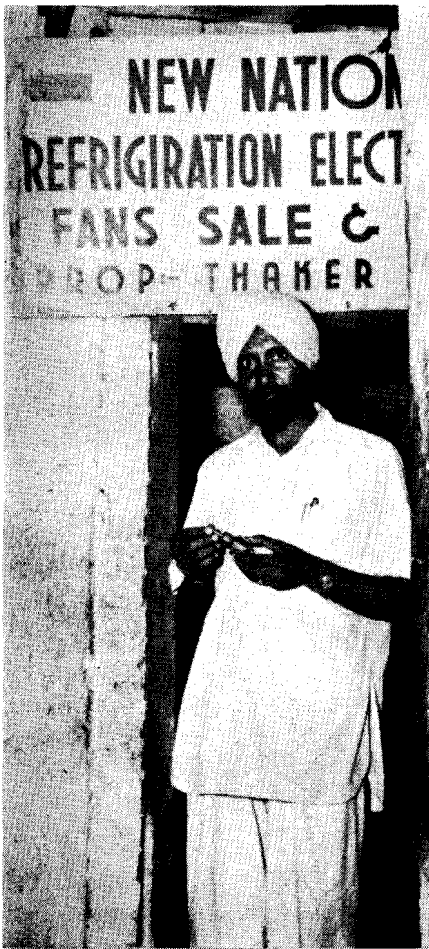
But there is a way to keep the African progressing—to keep him "civilized" as people often say—a way to make him know how to live and to enjoy life to the full. And yet strange to say, the happiest people we saw on our trip were the almost stark naked Pygmies who have no interest in progress or "civilization." Even before we got within sight of the Pygmies in the Ituri Forest in the heart of Africa they started to dance for us. We had to restrain their spontaneous joy in seeing us. They were laughing, smiling and singing, eating elephant flesh and bananas. But they were happy!

That should not be the case. Ignorance is not what *really* makes one happy. Yet we saw that the Pygmy was happy, but the Negro was more often *not* happy. The Negro knew more than the Pygmy, and wanted what the White Man had. The Pygmy couldn't see any reason to compete for it; he was too "socially dumb." But he was happy!

The Negro wants to reach out for what he does not have. But he has not been able to get it all in one generation. He often says, "I have to wait. That isn't fair!" The Negro is not happy because he is *not patient enough*!

Patience is a spiritual principle of God's Law which Europeans are not teaching the Negro. It is the spiritual principle of God's Way that make a person really happy (Psalm 1). Civilization and missionary alike have not brought the African Negro the right attitude of mind. No wonder mere progress does not really stimulate him. It does not make him happy. *He thinks he was happier the way he used to live*, with the thrills of theft and war, blood and death, and love and sex.

The Negro does not realize that white men have waited for *centuries* for what we enjoy now. The Negro usually wants the benefits of centuries of white toil



—Wide World Photo

Many Indian merchants from Asia have migrated to Africa and prospered. They form a third racial group over which racial strife, is developing.

A gorgeous forest scene in picturesque Ruanda-Urundi, east of the Congo. A lake is in the background. Atop the mountain in the foreground is a native village. The slopes are cultivated with numerous types of vegetables. Negroes make sturdy farmers and are learning to produce cash crops to buy European luxuries.



in one generation. And when he can't get it so quickly, he is very unhappy and morose.

Proper Education Needed

We cannot make the Black continent, that 75 years ago was savage, overnight into a great civilized power to enjoy all the things that we have. You cannot raise a continent to full freedom without also making the people *responsible* for that freedom. You cannot make the people responsible unless you *teach* them. You cannot teach them unless there are roads and numerous other means to facilitate *communications*.

Only 75 years ago there were almost *no roads* in Africa where the Negro was. In most of Africa there was no beast of burden *except the woman*. Seventy-five years ago most Africans did not know what a wheel was for. The women carried everything on their backs, or on their heads.

African women are still overwhelmingly illiterate today. There aren't teachers enough to help them. That's an example of why it is impossible to raise Africa to a responsible self-ruling continent in such a short time!

Do you think that the White man can leave Africa now without barbarity going back once more, within less than a generation?

Proper Diet Lacking Among Negroes

Dr. Meredith and I visited the all-Negro city of Kano in Nigeria. We saw

the kind of food the African eats. One foot away from the sewage drain in the center of a dirt street was a native restaurant—a big bowl of red pilly-pilly soup. We were invited to eat. We suggested that the bill of fare of the African was not customary for us, so we declined.

We walked to the markets. Animals were being butchered. The skins were being stripped of the fat. The flesh was placed on leaves at the side of the street. To keep the flies off, the fat was placed on the meat and the flies sat on the fat. What was not sold today was sold tomorrow. The temperature, of course, was between ninety and a hundred Fahrenheit. That is the way native life is spent.

The reason that the African does not know how to do many things by himself is that he does not know how to eat! Only if we have a healthy people can we have healthy minds. We saw natives with bulging stomachs, with navels protruding because they know nothing of medical science. Many, when they get a big bunch of bananas, eat *all* the bananas immediately. Then they roll in the shade with discomfort because they've eaten too much.

We found Negro men usually didn't eat *any vegetables or any greens*. That was *for women and rabbits*. The woman is treated as a semi-slave to this very day in Africa. The woman does the work. The woman does the hoeing. The woman builds the terraces. We saw hundreds of square miles of terraces built in all Africa by women who hoe by hand. Sometimes a native carries her

A typical shopping center in Equatorial Africa! 1 fare in the town of Mbarara—are operated by C far Africa has yet to advance in order to become



baby, sometimes the baby may be under a tree, but she hoes. She bends over nearly all day long, never standing up. Just bends over, day after day.

Do you know what the husband does? He stands with a spear waiting for an animal that doesn't show up, because the white man drove all the animals away. But the woman works. Do you think that's the kind of *man* who should be responsible for government in Africa? We don't!

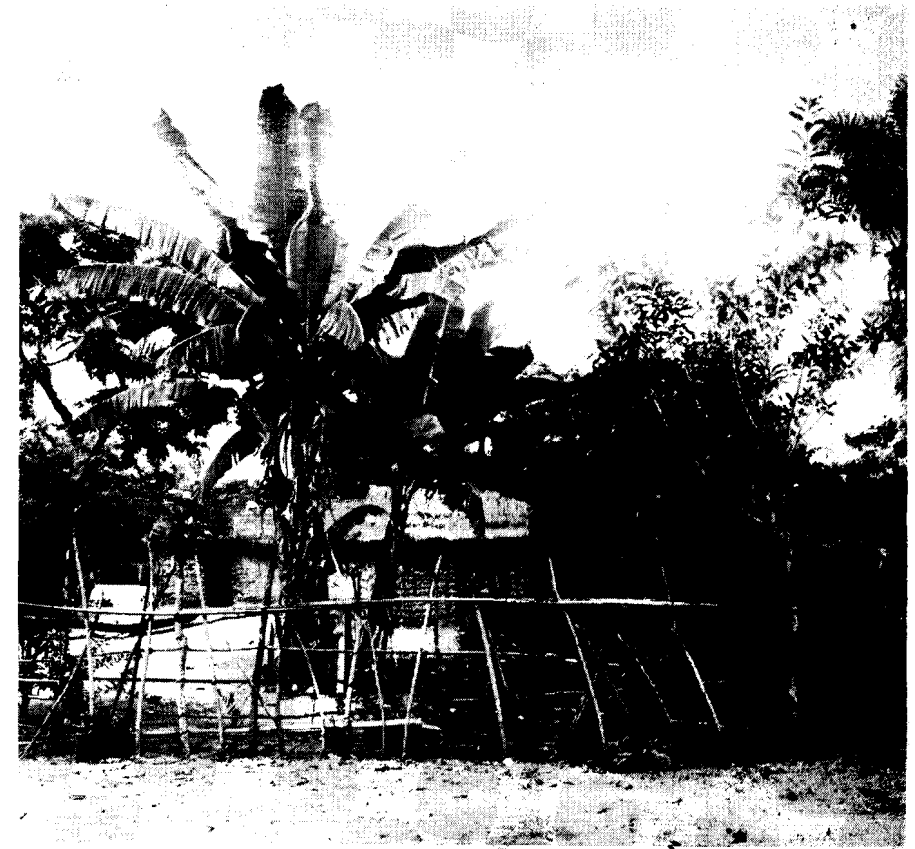
Most people who are in Europe and America do not know what the makeup of the African still is. But the white people who live there *know*.

The native often says, "Now! Now! Don't wait! Teach us everything now!" Many native children cannot remember the numbers from one to ten by the next morning. They try to count on their fingers and toes every morning and somehow some of them remember. Most of the children have never eaten right. They haven't yet learned how to eat. Their minds cannot understand much of what really is necessary to make civilization work.

Europeans Have Done Wonders

Nevertheless, the British and the French, the Belgians and others have done wonders. The African today lives as he never did before on much better food. For the first time Africa has sanitary water. In many places the African still disposes of the sewage in the same place that he bathes and washes his clothes, and drinks water from. Why?

Because he never thought of any other means of keeping water pure. And



A fence surrounds a banana tree and native dwellings along the bank of the Congo River in Central Africa. Notice primitive building methods employed by natives.

yet he survives. But the white man, if he were there, would probably die.

When the Whites came to Africa, often five-sixths of the population died within a generation. That is one reason why the African was made for Africa.

The Negro lives in an obstinate environment. Yet he is the one person who by nature can resist the diseases of

Africa—especially malaria.

Without the Negro, the White man could not tame Africa, because the environment would kill the Whites off before they could do all the manual labor necessary. All of the major work that *has been done in Africa has been done by natives* under White supervision. But the natives would never have

ca! The shops lining this street—the main thorough-
by Greeks and Indians. This scene illustrates how
some truly civilized.



This is a Hausa village in Nigeria, West Africa. Though this region is sandy and hot, the climate is humid. Hausas are very progressive Moslem Negroes. Many work for whites in order to buy more luxuries. This is a typical "bush" village.

—E. A. Sweetman & Son, Tunbridge Wells



done the work without the White man's first having told him *what to do*. That is why the White man needs to be the teacher, needs to be the guide, a father to the African.

How Africans Look at American Negroes!

Now we come to the BIG QUESTIONS in the minds of Africans today. We asked many natives of Africa what they thought of the American Negro. Here is what they asked us:

"What tribe do American Negroes belong to?" "What native Negro language do they speak besides English?"

The Negro in Africa is not aware of the fact that the Negro in America doesn't remember from which tribe he once came. The Negro in Africa is not aware of the fact that the Negro in America has lost his native tongue, that he speaks only an acquired tongue.

Then the Negroes in Africa asked us—and this is the crux of the matter—"WHY DON'T AMERICAN NEGROES COME OVER HERE TO HELP US?"

Do you know what we had to tell them?

We told them exactly what many American Negroes have confessed to us: "Most are too often selfish. The American Negro would rather live and receive the reward of White man's civilization than to go over to Africa filled with zeal at the opportunity of teaching their colored brethren. Instead the White man has to go over there to teach the natives, which God intended as the first step only."

But the Negro in Africa doesn't understand why the White man has come to Africa as a teacher, but *why the American Negro does not come!*

Why is it that among colored people in the United States, we have all these organizations fostering racial competition between Negroes and Whites, but no organization that has ever spearheaded a drive among the colored population in America to prepare American Negroes to teach the African Negro what they have already acquired. White Americans would eagerly finance such a genuine program which would quickly dampen all the racial strife now spreading as no court decision or soldiers ever can do.

In all our trip, do you know how many American Negroes we saw in Africa?

ONE! Only one man. He was a machinist, and he didn't even go there of his own accord. An American business concern that had already employed him sent him over there where he had a job waiting. Isn't it about time American Negro Organizations gave some intelligent thought to aiding their racial brethren in Africa more personally?

We can only build up in Africa what needs to be there, if we first get at the root of the problem—the *right kind of education for American Negroes in Negro colleges and high schools.*

Do you know what most American Negroes are being trained in? In business administration, and sociology.

If these American Negroes who are political scientists and sociologists were to go into Africa, the only offices that they can fulfill are the offices that White men already occupy. And so whom do they displace? They displace the White man whom the native African still wants as the guide and supervisor.

AFRICA'S GREATEST CRYING NEED IS A COMPETENT TEACHING STAFF OF WELL TRAINED AMERICAN NEGROES WHO WOULD WORK UNDER THOSE EUROPEANS WHO HAVE BEEN IN AFRICA AND WHO KNOW THE AFRICAN DIALECTS AND LANGUAGES AND THE AFRICAN MIND.

It is time young American Negroes realize what their responsibilities are before entering upon a College career. Rather than add to the already troubled relations between the races, young colored students ought to seek educational training which will not lead to competition with Whites, but which will build up the educational level of the Negroes both in America and Africa.

Entering teacher training courses, with the possible goal of journeying to Africa to teach the natives there, would receive White support beyond expectation. And if American Negroes who have no opportunity for advanced education worked with that as a goal in mind for their children, much of the racial problem would soon vanish.

Yes, it is high time the Negroes in

America heard the "Macedonian call" (Acts 16:9)—"COME OVER INTO AFRICA AND HELP US!"

Mental Breakdowns

(Continued from page 10)

and the *power* to CONTROL the self. This Spirit of SELF-MASTERY enables us to rise above the human plane and exercise the very character of God!

Another description of the characteristics imparted by God's Spirit is found in II Timothy 1:7. "For God hath not given us the spirit of fear or frustration or anxiety; but of POWER, and of LOVE, and of a SOUND MIND."

Paul is speaking of *spiritual* power to OVERCOME our problems and MASTER the self. God's Spirit gives us *His* love—a *spiritual* love that fulfills God's law as summarized in the Ten Commandments (I John 5:3). And the Holy Spirit gives us a *SOUND* mind—a *balanced* mind—a deep *understanding* of our real *purpose* and *goal* in life which will prevent us from "cracking up."

Indeed, the very *reason* so many ministers and laymen are having mental and emotional breakdowns is that they lack that vital contact with God and the POWER of His Spirit within them. They all NEED God's Holy Spirit, and the very "fruits" in their own lives prove beyond question that *they do not have it!*

Time does not permit us to go into the entire problem of true conversion and the reception of God's Spirit in this article. But be sure and write in immediately for Mr. Armstrong's *free* booklet, "Why Were You Born?"

And remember that God gives His Spirit "to them that OBEY him" (Acts 5:32). If you are willing to OBEY your Maker, if you are willing to *surrender* your will to "live by every word of God" and let the Bible be the AUTHORITY in your life, then God will certainly grant you His Spirit—His POWER in your life. An article in the next issue will go more deeply into the real *meaning* of conversion. *Don't miss it!*

Continue to *seek* God's will, His way, His Spirit in your life. It is the way to everlasting JOY and *peace of mind*. You NEED it as much as you need food or air to breathe!

Inside South America

Benjamin Rea, head of the Spanish department in Ambassador College, recently accompanied Garner Ted Armstrong on an urgent fact-finding tour through much of this continent. They laid plans for starting *The World Tomorrow* broadcast in Spanish.

by Benjamin L. Rea

AFTER traveling throughout Chile and then into Argentina, Mr. Ted Armstrong and I found German economic interests are gaining footholds in many of the industrial spheres. We also found that good relationships between Latin American countries and the United States and Britain were drastically waning.

At this point, in the diary, we find ourselves ready to embark from Buenos Aires, Argentina, to Uruguay.

July 18

Boarding the plane in Buenos Aires, we had to ride 40 minutes across the estuary of the Rio de la Plata, to Montevideo, the capital of Uruguay. This little country is entirely different from Argentina. The people do not look as well fed. They look happier, but they are poorer in every respect.

July 19

We made an appointment to see a Mr. Walter Alfaro about radio in Uruguay. His station covers the entire country and also the populated area around the estuary of Rio de la Plata; it also

covers the Paraguayan capital and southern Brazil. Mr. Alfaro didn't have a very nice office. It was actually ill-furnished and had absolutely no heat. This was the middle of the winter season in Uruguay as it was in Chile and Argentina.

Mr. Alfaro was very courteous; he gave us an hour and a half of his time and answered all of our questions about the possibility of broadcasting from Uruguay. He gave us some encouragement, but on the other hand, he stated that the religious programs that he had had on the station were not very receptive, mainly because the Uruguayan people and the Spanish-speaking people in general were not very receptive to foreign "brands" of religion. He said that they all belonged to the Catholic Church and were complacent in their beliefs, not wanting to change. He said that each Uruguayan attended church on Sunday and therefore really had no need for another religion.

We told him that the program *The World Tomorrow* is quite different in



This building houses the Naval Ministry in Buenos Aires, Argentina. The Navy prompted the revolution that recently overthrew the Peron regime.

every respect. We ask for no money, we have a program that is *dynamic* and one that is interesting because it links the prophecies of the Bible with the events of the world as they are happening. At the end of our conversation, it seemed that Mr. Alfaro was impressed with the Work.

Uruguayan People are Nationalistic

This was the only interview that we were able to have while in Uruguay. Although, two days later while on the way to the airport to leave for Sao Paulo, Brazil, I did have an opportunity to talk with a well-informed driver who drove the airport limousine. He was obviously nationalistic about his little country and was very happy to inform us that of all the Latin American countries, Uruguay had not had a revolution since it had gained its independence. This is true. Uruguay is the most politically stable of all the Latin American countries. He gave us a great deal of information about the country although we already understood most of the statistics.

For example, Uruguay is one of the

These election posters aptly typify the political unrest and the general living conditions in Argentina today.





Colorful, modernistic Government apartment buildings guard the entrance to the Valley of Caracas, Venezuela. This photo was taken from a moving automobile.

most socialistic of all countries; it is a socialistic democracy. It was the first country in the Western Hemisphere to adopt the fair-trade laws and minimum daily salary laws like the ones we have recently enacted in the United States. Uruguay has also written into law the old age pension and other things that we in this country have adopted in the last quarter century.

For our trip to Sao Paulo, we boarded an American Airline's plane. The hostess aboard our flight, although of Mexican descent, was not really able to talk Spanish to us. She spoke Spanish very haltingly and when the instructions were given for crashing or for landing in the sea, she read them from a manual. The airline personnel were not as courteous, by any means, as the English-Argentines had been to us on the other part of this tour.

After our arrival, I noticed the German influence was great also in Brazil. The English language is out of place here—so is Spanish, although the two languages are understood by a few of the people. The two really important languages in Sao Paulo are, first, Portuguese, the language of the country, and then German.

German Industries Boom in Brazil

I was fortunate in meeting a man by the name of Manfaurez, a Lebanese, recently arrived in Brazil. He had been, the year before, the driver and the personal servant of Mr. von Bohlen, who is the President of the Krupp industrial empire. Mr. von Bohlen had been to Brazil to survey the possibility of establishing a steel mill in the environs of

Sao Paulo. We arranged for him to take us to the steel mill where we could get pictures of the site, in order to report to you, the readers of *The PLAIN TRUTH*, the activity of the world-wide Krupp industry in this area of South America.

On the way out of town, Mr. Manfaurez pointed out the various great industrial works of the Opel, DKW, Mercedes Benz and also many industrial activities of an Italian company in Sao Paulo. He pointed out that one of the automobiles that is manufactured in Brazil is called the Rominzetta. This is a product that is controlled and owned by an Italian family there. There was also a Ford plant and a GM plant, representing the various American concerns. Outside of the town we took a turnpike into the city of Jundiaí. This highway would make any city in the United States proud. It resembles the New Jersey turnpike leading from New York into New Jersey.

The city of Jundiaí is a modern town—planned, laid out in squares. It has schools, shops, plazas and factories. I stood on a hill and counted the stacks of eight different plants in a row, and there were many others in the vicinity. There were textile mills, mills that fabricated steel articles into electrical appliances, food processing plants, spaghetti plants, flour mills, etc. There was also an industrial works there that produces heavy dirt-moving equipment used in the construction of highways.

After leaving Jundiaí, we moved north and went into the rail-head city of Campinas. This is the city where Krupp

has bought 300 square hectares (appx. 2700 acres) in which to build his company village and steel mills. The steel mill was not fully constructed, but the houses for the workers were being built. The village is going to be modern in every respect. After the German industrialists take over the production of steel in this area, I am sure that there will be more and more German control over the area because of the existence of this German mill, the presence of the German industrialists, and the German workers that will run the steel mill of Mr. Krupp.

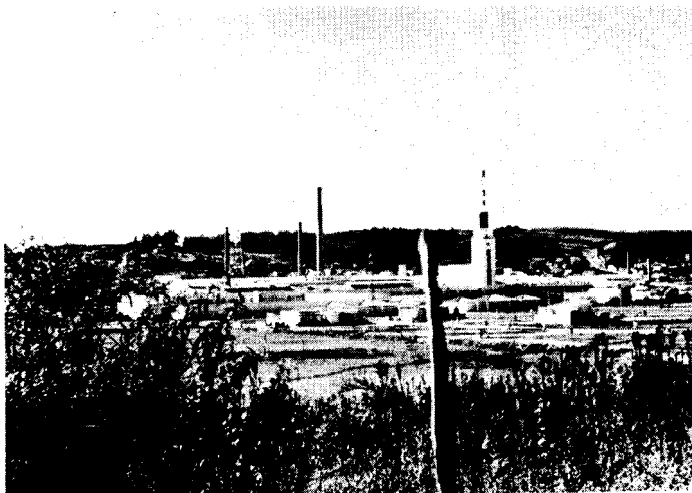
After we returned to Sao Paulo, we decided to see what we could of the downtown area of the city.

The city is relatively new. The downtown area is only fourteen years old, and is very, very modern. It looks as modern as "tomorrow." The plazas are wide, the streets are broad and well kept. The buildings are colorful in their style of architecture. The cement portions of the buildings are of various colors with wide use of glass in their construction. This city is constructed to be an industrial and commercial city and it is serving that purpose splendidly even now.

On to Rio

We flew into Río de Janeiro that afternoon, and as we approached the city we were thrilled by the marvel of the construction of the city. It looked like a jewel sparkling at the feet of the various mountain peaks that fill the city. It also lined the shores of the Bay of Guana-

Here you see a forest of smoke stacks of the modern planned industrial city of Jundiaí, Brazil.



bara. This bay was mistaken for a river by Cabral when he discovered this area, and he called the bay the River of January, from which they get the name *Rio de Janeiro*.

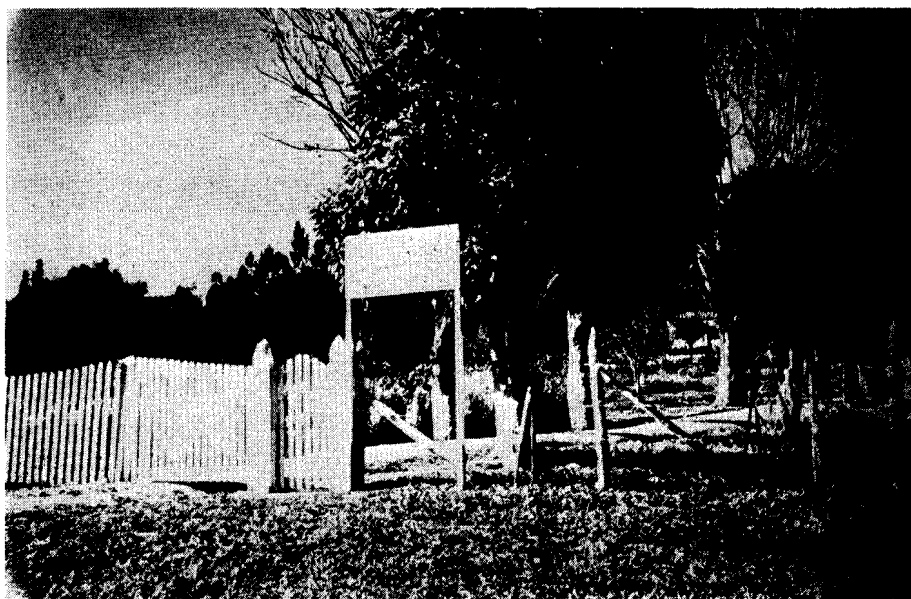
After landing at the Santos Dumont airport, we could immediately see that the attractive picture of the city that was presented to us from the air was deceptive. In reality it was a very ugly and very dirty city. The buildings, although modernistic, were badly constructed. The streets were not kept clean; there was filth everywhere. And also, it was quite evident to the visitor in *Rio* and in all Brazil, that the races here have mingled until you have a mixture that cannot be named. There was more deformity in Brazil than in any other country that we visited. This could be due to the excessive mixture of the races and also to the bad diet that a lot of these poor people have.

We checked into a hotel on Copacabana Beach, and were very disappointed. The hotel was representative of the whole city—the beaches, the stores, etc. People were not very courteous to us, possibly because we could not speak Portuguese, but were speaking Spanish or English, and the two languages are not very widely spoken.

One thing that was really remarkable about *Rio de Janeiro* was the fact that the population seemed devoted to the gentle art of having fun. *Rio* is a pleasure or tourist city. Wherever you find this situation existing, you will find a great many American tourists. It was quite a contrast to the bustling economic activity of *Sao Paulo*. There were a few Americans there, but the easy-to-get pleasure that was offered to them in *Rio* was attractive enough to keep them there. As a result, the tourists were everywhere in *Rio*, with their loud shirts, their gum and their loud talk, and with the attitude that "I am superior to you and I want you to 'cow-tow' to me." This is evident wherever American tourists congregate. They seem to work with a will to give the United States a bad reputation.

German Advertising Pays Off

While in *Rio*, Mr. Armstrong and I visited an automotive fair displaying the progress that the Brazilian automotive



This is the secluded entrance, near *Sao Paulo*, Brazil, to the new Krupp Steel Mill which soon will be in operation.

industry had made in the last few years. The most striking thing here was the fact that although the American automotive companies had superior displays, their propaganda to advertise their produce and their company in order to earn good will was far inferior to the German propaganda.

The Germans used signs above their wares they were displaying which said in effect, "We are here showing you the net result of the *Brazilian* industry. We show you that you have invested so many millions of *cruzeiros* whereas we invested a few million Deutsche Marks." The effect was this, that the German industrialists were toying with the nationalistic feelings of the Brazilians, while the American industrialists were trying to convince them that they (the companies) were doing something for the Brazilians. To an American, this would seem to be the correct way to get the good will and sympathy of the other person—to show how you are benefiting him. This is American psychology. Whereas the foreign psychology is quite different from the American approach. The German doesn't mind what the company is called as long as the benefits accrue to the German industrialists, so as a result of this, they call their companies by Spanish or Portuguese names, and in turn, rather than building up the German viewpoint in their advertisements, they play up on the nationalistic tendencies of these

areas. In this way, they control the individuals and their buying habits. This was just another example of how the Germans are gaining control of these areas in South America.

We had intended to spend more time in *Rio*, but after arriving there and seeing the lack of industry and also the emphasis placed upon entertaining the tourists, we decided that there was not much we could do that was not "tourist." We made plans to leave on July 24 for *Caracas*, the capital of the Republic of *Venezuela*.

At 11:35 P.M. on July 24, we took off in an American Airlines plane for *Caracas*. This is the longest flight over land in the world. We flew across the dense *Matto Grosso* of Brazil, across the *Amazon* jungle, over some of the wildest territory in the Western Hemisphere. We crossed also the *Gruana Highlands* and the south-*Venezuelan Highlands* and finally crossed over the *Orinoco Basin* into the coastal areas of northern South America and landed at the port city of *La Guaira*. This is the airport for *Caracas* and is also its seaport.

Venezuela a Complete Dictatorship

As we went into the customs, I reminded Mr. Armstrong that we were about to step into a total dictatorship. The state has complete control over the people and the economic activity in the country. This was quite evident as we

stepped into the customs. We were met by police—armed and uniformed.

We were ushered into a big room and were taken first through the health inspection where an inspector took our passports and inserted a little piece of paper as we passed by—he did not look up. He was very nonchalant in his action toward those that were passing by.

Into another room we were processed by a battery of secretaries, then our passports were sent down the line where we had to buy a ten Bolívar (\$3.00) stamp in order to enter the country. Immediately behind me a British subject was entering Caracas for a couple of days. Rather than charge him the equivalent of 10 Bolívars, or \$3.00, they charged him 3£, which was actually three times the price they charged us to get into the country. I suppose they thought he was so stupid that he could not count the money, although his stamp had the same value as the one placed in my passport. In other words, this British subject was "taken."

We had to make the fifteen-mile trip into Caracas by taxi. As we left the airport, we entered into a well-built, beautiful freeway that led us through a series of tunnels through the mountains into the valley in which Caracas is located. At each end of the tunnels there were soldiers of the national police who were guarding the approaches. These were the ever present police of a dictatorship or a police state.

As we approached the rim of the valley overlooking Caracas, our eyes beheld one of the most modern cities that we had seen in all South America. It was even more modern than Sao Paulo. It is constructed on a series of freeways that traverse the city in all four directions. It has two enormous office buildings that belong to the federal government. They are built over the main thoroughfare which extends the full length of the valley. In other words, the street passes under the buildings. There were no stop signs on this street because all the streets pass under or over the freeway.

Petroleum Industry Causes Inflation

The taxi driver took us to our hotel, the Tamanaco, which is the most modern hotel that I have ever been in and also the most comfortable.

In Caracas, the economy is based on petroleum, and as petroleum is actually the chief industry of the whole country, the economy is inflated. To park your car it costs you 35 cents in American money, a cup of coffee 40 cents, and a good dinner somewhere in the vicinity of \$6.00. The poor man in Caracas is really hard pressed because the minimum salary here is not commensurate with the prices that he has to pay in the markets.

The oil companies that control the production of oil in Venezuela are American. They are centered specifically around the Lake Maracaibo region and have their refineries off the coast of Venezuela on some of the islands.

The Venezuelan government has recently given rights to an American steel company for the producing of iron and steel ore in the Venezuelan Highlands near the city Ciudad Bolívar. Other types of industry have been developed by German, Italian and some English firms. Industrially, Venezuela is almost completely dominated by foreign oil companies.

Because of the prices here in Caracas, we were not able to stay very long. We made plans to leave on the morning of July 28 for the United States via Cuba and Montego Bay. Our tickets called for an American Airlines plane to take us through, but we found that we would have to go to Miami, Florida and then return to Cuba. We decided to change our reservations to another airline taking us directly to New Orleans. We called the airlines office and were told that there was no way they could give us reservations on the other airline in order to come directly to the United States. However, we were confident that it would be the will of God that we come directly back; so we left early for the airport on the morning of July 28.

I walked up to the counter of the airline and asked if there were two seats on this flight, and much to my joy, the clerk told me there were. We asked if we could board the plane, and he answered, "Yes, let me see your passports." After examining them, he told us that we would have to return to Caracas to get the governmental permission to leave. This was just another evidence of the control that the dictatorship has on all activity in the country.

Because they would not let us leave the country without this government permission, we had to hire a taxi to take us back to the city and go through the red tape in order to get the small piece of paper saying "approved." We soon returned to the airport however and had fifteen or twenty minutes to wait before the plane left for the United States.

Latin America in Prophecy

In Ezek. 27:12 we read: "Tarshish was thy merchant by reason of the multitude of all kinds of riches; with silver, iron, tin, and lead, they traded in thy fairs." Tarshish is a descendant of Javan and his descendants have dominated Latin America since the days of Columbus.

South America is composed of Indian, Spanish and Portuguese races with mixtures of Negro blood in the latter. We know that these races, except for the Negroes, are mainly a combination Tiras and Tarshish.

Now notice verse 12 of Ezek. 27: "... all kinds of riches; with silver, iron, tin, and lead, they traded in thy fairs." Of the silver producing nations of the world, Mexico leads. They have also great deposits of iron ore—there is a mountain in southern Venezuela that is almost pure iron ore. Bolivia is one of the leading tin producers of the world. Chile produces a great deal of lead and lead also is found in Mexico and Bolivia.

In verse 25 of this same chapter, we notice that the "ships of Tarshish did sing of thee in thy market; and thou wast replenished and made very glorious in the midst of the seas." The Republic of Panamá has a system of registering ships. They give special tax concessions and they have fewer regulations governing the operation of these ships than the other major maritime nations of the world. So the ship owners of the world have registered a large tonnage of ships in Panamá. According to the World Almanac, Panamá ranks as one of the four great merchant powers of the world. Therefore, we can see a different meaning in verse 25 of Ezekiel 27. The ships of Tarshish, in other words, Panamá as part of the descendants of Tarshish, will have a great commercial part to play in the resurrection of the Roman Empire in Europe.

AMERICA IS LOSING A WAR!

South America is going Fascist! A gigantic WORLD TRADE WAR is on—and our nation is **losing out!** Here, continued from the last issue, we bring you the second behind-the-scenes report—**from South America.**

by Garner Ted Armstrong

CARACAS, Venezuela:

MR. REA and I have flown here from Rio de Janeiro, Sao Paulo, Montevideo, Buenos Aires and other important South American cities. Here in the Capital of Venezuela, the "new look" of this great continent is immediately apparent. We came here over a range of mountains via a new, ultra-modern freeway, through long, gracefully curving, tiled and well-lighted tunnels, and over high, delicately arched bridges, spanning the rocky gorges between Caracas and the sea.

In this last great city of our South American trip, we see a good representative picture of the changing face of the new South America. Now, colorful apartment buildings are being reared to replace the ugly shacks of the slum areas—new, broad, tree-lined avenues and freeways replacing narrow, winding streets of the past—the din of construction here, there, everywhere!

South America is reaping the fruits of a gigantic TRADE WAR!

Mr. Rea and I have visited the really great industrial and commercial centers of this gigantic continent. We have talked to government officials, businessmen, radio station managers and the man-of-the-street. Both of us are able to converse freely in the Spanish language, and we have learned much.

Here, backed up by statistical proof and the inspired Word of God, is what is now taking place in South America! This is the battleground of a world trade war we are losing!

Coming—a Siege!

Methods of warfare have changed. Most people, however, are not really *aware* of HOW these changes will affect THEIR LIVES in the next few years. It has suddenly become possible for madmen in seats of great power to speak the



Another part of the industrial area of Jundiai, where Krupp—the kingpin of this world's babylonish economic system—is building another segment of his steel empire.

word that might plunge this fear-filled world into a great, awe-inspiring HYDROGEN BOMB WAR! Frightened scientists and world leaders WELL KNOW such a war could mean the frightful END OF ALL HUMAN LIFE! This is REAL! THIS IS YOUR LIFE!

As was shown in the preceding article, God warns us in prophecy that He will use GERMANY as a TOOL in His hands to punish our nation—His people Israel—who have forgotten their Creator!

To most, who are blinded by the seemingly "permanent appearing" present, it is an inconceivable occurrence! Blinded, gullible, recklessly careless human beings find it hard to believe the thunderous warnings of their Creator!

Regardless of how *surprising* it may seem, however, the God of the universe has decreed that the United States, Great Britain and others of the democratic nations of northwestern Europe are to be *besieged within our gates—until we fall!*

"The Lord shall bring a nation against

thee from far, from the end of the earth, as swift as the eagle flieth; a nation whose tongue thou shalt not understand . . . and he shall *besiege* thee in all thy gates, until thy high and fenced walls come down, wherein thou trustedst, throughout all thy land; and he *shall besiege thee* in all thy gates throughout all thy land . . ." (Deut. 28:49-52).

How could this be possible?

In this modern twentieth century of fearful guided missiles and jet airplanes how could it be possible to "besiege" a nation? Could airplanes, tanks, ships, submarines be used? No! Today's modern methods of warfare have shrunk the world until an enemy nation is only hours away by the swift jet bombers—and only *minutes* away by huge, inter-continental ballistics missiles!

In what way could we possibly be besieged?

IN A TRADE WAR!

Faced with terrible FAMINES *within* our countries, and forced OUT of the foreign markets by a huge trade com-

bine—neither permitting goods to be imported, nor buying our goods produced for export, *we will be under a literal siege!*

Trade War Here Now!

Western observers have been *shocked* at the rapid rise to power of West Germany. In just a few short years, with the help of the multi-MILLIONS of dollars we have poured into Germany, she has regained her position as one of the strong powers of the world—and a power once more to be reckoned with in world affairs. Even though Germany recently ordered \$1,007,000,000 worth of arms (from various foreign countries), she is not yet as strong *militarily* as she will later become.

Economically, however, Western Germany is enjoying unparalleled prosperity, and a solidity that has cast shadows of apprehensiveness over her two biggest European competitors, England and France.

One of the major battle-fronts of the coming trade war will be *right here in South America*. Our so-called "back door" has been left *standing wide open* for just such a move—and it has been taken advantage of.

As was shown in the last article, German investors have developed to a large extent their overseas holdings in many portions of South America. The heavy industry of Argentina, Brazil and Venezuela has been increased and exploited by German industrialists. German precision manufacturing, utility of goods, and salesmanship has completely "sold" the South American populaces on the superiority of German-made goods over those of the U.S.A. and Great Britain, their chief competitors.

A good illustration of this was in the account given by a Venezuelan oil machinery buyer not so long ago. He described his dealings with the Americans, French, British and Germans. When asking the Americans about machinery, he said, they sent him a catalog. Ask the French, and you receive no answer. Ask the British, and their salesmen immediately launch into a sales talk explaining why their product is the best. Ask the Germans, said this Venezuelan businessman, and two Germans show up and ask, "Where do we put it?"

This humorous account is indicative of the German enthusiasm for work, industry and efficiency. "Other nations work to live, but *we live to work*," say the German people.

A trade war is already upon us!

Our financial and economic experts can SEE its rapid growth. They realize the *already* developing trend of German superiority in the foreign markets. As far back as 1953, West Germany's ship-building industry reached *second place* in world construction. Great Britain, long a major sea power, was relegated to a back seat in ship building by the nation she had supposedly defeated in World War II. By almost superhuman efforts (backed by U.S. dollars), well over half the pre-war merchant fleet tonnage had been replaced by 1954!

One of the "secret weapons" of the German people is "inventiveness." It was stark *fear* of this inventive genius that caused the allies to ban research into many technical sciences after the war. The "Haber process" in World War I allowed Germany to take nitrogen out of the *air*, and thus embark on world conquest, even though they were certain to be deprived of most of their overseas natural nitrate supplies. Synthetic rubber, crude oil and other byproducts from coal placed enough essential raw materials into Hitler's hands that he was able to begin a mechanized war in 1939 without other sources. The invention of the V1 and V2 rockets that came screeching down out of the skies on England during World War II is another example. It is this inventive genius, the driving desire for hard work, and a deep sense of national pride that has led the German people down the amazing road to recovery that has taken the breath of the world.

These same qualities are being utilized to *encircle the globe* with financial and economic bands in a far-reaching campaign to gain control of *world trade*. Not only is it being accomplished here in South America, but also in many other parts of the world.

In our visit to the office of the Industrial Union of Argentina, Mr. Rea and I learned that Argentina is *readily receptive* to incoming foreign capital for the development of Argentina's industrial potential. Already, German

concerns are thickly concentrated in Argentina's industry, manufacturing automobiles, buses, locomotives and railway cars, and many other products.

Mr. Wilson Sidwell, a prosperous businessman of Buenos Aires, Argentina with whom Mr. Rea and I spent considerable time remarked how German businessmen frequently worked themselves into influential positions in industry so they could have a voice in politics. He was especially pleased that the American businessmen *did not* try to voice their views in the politics of Argentina. That is exactly why Argentina is tending toward fascism far more than democracy!

Businessmen and Political Agents

Such publications as the "World Trade Information Service" have revealed the *far-seeing* plan of West German firms to supply the *technical advisors*, together with the dealers and distributors of German equipment being introduced into South America. These advisors are more than mere salesmen or technicians. They are well-trained diplomats, exploiters of fascist organizations, and advocates of pan-germanism.

Most gullible citizens of the United States and Great Britain *do not realize* that much of German industry is presently controlled by Nazi's who were active in the Hitler Regime. We have *assumed* Germany has been completely "denazified."

But did you realize this intricate denazification program, with its questionnaires, forms, and myriads of "red tape," was *turned over to the Germans themselves as early as 1947*?

Think of it!

The amazingly trusting allied commands were persuaded by the Germans that *THEY could better denazify themselves* just two short years after the war! The allies, who were already somewhat confused with the evasive answers, the belligerency and hostility, and the seemingly endless "red tape" connected with almost every case (see the book, *Fragebogen* by Ernest von Solomon), wearily consented—and the Germans have supposedly been "denazifying" themselves ever since!

Or have they?



The increasing industrial output of the Krupp Steel Mills necessitated the Brazilian government to build these railways at Campinas to handle the traffic.



The steel interests of Krupp are expanding at a huge rate in Brazil. Here are warehouses of Krupp near Sao Paulo, Brazil.

Listen to these amazing statements!

In Brian Connell's book, *A Watcher on the Rhine*, published in 1957, Mr. Connell, a former Reuters correspondent, and long-time resident of Bonn, Germany, being presently a noted and respected appraiser of post war Germany, lists the names of the fifteen top industrialists in the Ruhr, Germany's tremendous industrial area. These men, says Mr. Connell, are the power holders of a new generation of Germans, succeeding the former producers, and the financiers. Mr. Connell calls them the *managers* of Ruhr industry. After naming each one, together with the impressive list of huge industrial concerns that are now making the world stare in wonder, he says, "All except Muller are former Nazi party members." *Fourteen of the fifteen most powerful managers of the Ruhr are former Nazis!*

Omer Anderson, another correspondent in Bonn, Germany, in an article entitled, "Most of the 'Old Nazis' are doing well in Post-War Germany" said, "Ruhr industry is thick with ex-Nazis, big and little. There is no record of any Nazi being jobless against his will. And when the prison gates have sprung open for Nazis held as war criminals, jobs—well-paying—awaited them."

The men named include Sepp Dietrich, chief of Hitler's bodyguard, who was responsible for the Malmedy, Belgium, massacre of captured American troops, and whose release from Spandau prison recently raised some voices of protest in the British Isles. Another named is Walther Funk, imprisoned at Spandau as one of the seven "blackest

Nazis," who was freed on the appeal of an American attorney. Field Marshal Albert Kesselring, Grand Admirals Erich Raeder and Karl Doenitz are three top Nazis who are out of prison and who now live in secure comfort on huge Bonn government military pensions.

Unknown to the public, the encircling bands of German industrial and economic might are being drawn tighter by a clique of former Nazis, now the dynamic leaders of the biggest industrial resurgence ever to take place in Europe.

Many of the "businessmen" who fill hotels, bars and restaurants in South America are here at the behest of these contemporary German industrialists—busily advocating, not only the superiority of German goods—but the superiority of Germany!

The House of Krupp

Alfried Krupp von Bohlen und Halback is in many ways the backbone of Germany's world-wide industrial resurgence. Imprisoned by the allies at the close of the war, Krupp is presently the multi-millionaire leader of the giant Krupp enterprises, which manufactured Hitler's munitions during the war.

Articles have appeared in *Life*, *Time* and *Newsweek*, discussing the amazing growth of Germany's giant of industry. Krupp is a world-known figure, perhaps the wealthiest man in all Europe, and certainly one of the richest men in the world. Krupp technicians and engineers are busy in Yugoslavia, Egypt, the Sudan, Turkey, India, Spain, Italy, Argentina, Brazil and many other countries,

building hydro-electric plants, dams, irrigation projects, railways, locomotive factories, steel mills, mining facilities, bridges and other heavy industrial items.

Excited newspapers in Turkey recently headlined the news that Krupp "might" finance a bridge across the Bosphorus. The Hitler dream of the "Berlin to Baghdad" railway is apparently becoming a reality under the sure hand of industrialist Krupp. While in Turkey, Alfried Krupp was taken on a tour of Turkey's mines and factories. He was treated with lavishness such as is bestowed only on kings and royalty. He promised to spend 71 million marks (\$17 million) on a new blast furnace that would *more than double* Turkey's pig iron production.

Brazilians are excitedly awaiting the building of a railway from Rio de Janeiro to Buenos Aires, Argentina. The railway would mean the realization of a cherished hope of South American industry—uniting the two biggest industrial areas of the continent. A bridge is proposed across the "Rio de la Plata," also to be sponsored by Krupp.

Mr. Rea and I hired a guide to drive us from Sao Paulo, Brazil, to the outlying industrial areas of Campinas and Itu. We were taken to the site of Krupp's proposed steel mill, where big bulldozers were already breaking ground for the erection of a company village to house workers. We inspected the huge warehouses, for the moment standing vacant, purchased by Krupp on his recent visit to South America. We saw the careful planning that had gone into the huge project, and were able to learn

a good deal from the guide, a multi-lingual Arab, who had been Alfried Krupp's driver during his visit to Sao Paulo.

Unknown to most, the Krupp combine represents a power almost as large as its own Government. Krupp is one of the few remaining men in the world to be head of such an industrial giant of such magnitude. The British greatly fear German (Krupp) predominance in the eastern markets, although they are presently carrying on more trade with the Soviets than is Germany.

Political party financing in Germany depends almost exclusively on subventions from the industrialists in Germany! Both the Christian Democrats and the Liberals depend on financing from industry for the electoral funds. These are the same organizations and in one or two cases even the *same men*, who used these political funds in the days of the Weimar Republic to finance the right-wing radical groups of Hitler and Hugenberg. What will happen in the future when these men decide to divert these funds to other radical groups?

Germany to Lead the Siege

Europe is going to unite! Konrad Adenauer, having been recently re-elected to his post as Chancellor of the strongest nation in Western Europe, is continuing down his pro-western road to delayed unification with Eastern Germany (which, seemingly is still far in the distance) and the uniting of all Europe in common political and economic ties.

For years, the pages of *The PLAIN TRUTH* magazine have been shouting to you that Germany is destined to dominate a revived "*Roman Empire*" in Europe—perhaps called "The United States of Europe."

Germany presently has a \$2 BILLION gold and dollar balance in the European Payments Union. She is thinking of investing those assets, and bringing still further economic solidity to Germany. Think of it!

Germany is economically MUCH STRONGER at this moment than England and France, even though it was supposedly GERMANY who came out the loser in World War II. It has been said that the Allies won the war, but *lost the*

peace! In fact, a German Geo-Political bulletin, from underground headquarters in Madrid, said, "The Americans have lost the peace, the cold war, and their whole future, but they're not yet aware of it." It follows that Germany is the only nation *strong enough* to head the coming European union.

As was already explained, in the previous article, God's word positively identifies the ASSYRIA of Biblical prophecy as *modern-day Germany*. In describing the *nation* He will bring upon us to "beseige thee in all thy gates" (Deut. 28:52), God says:

"O ASSYRIAN [German], *the rod of mine anger*, and the staff in their hand is *mine indignation*. I will send him [Germany] against an hypocritical nation, and against the people of my wrath will I give him charge, to take the spoil, and to take the prey, and to tread them down like the mire of the streets" (Isa. 10:5-6).

This is coming in less than 15 years if we don't wake up!

Two Major Factors

Do not allow yourself to be lulled to sleep by the seemingly secure *present*. There are *two major factors* in Biblical prophecy which sweep away this false hope.

The *first* is the BREAKING of our own strength! Notice God's warning to us—Israel—America today!

"I will BREAK the pride of your power; and I will make your heaven as iron, and your earth as brass, and your strength shall be spent in vain" (Lev. 26:19-20).

Notice how EXACTLY this prophecy has been coming to pass. The *pride* of our power HAS been broken. *No longer* do U.S. Marines land on enemy shores to quell outbursts of violence against U.S. citizens. Remember Indo-China, Korea, Formosa, North Africa? We have "passed notes" to the Communists, politely "reminding them" of their responsibility for shooting down and brutally murdering helpless passengers on civilian airlines planes—but the PRIDE OF OUR POWER IS GONE!

We don't STAND UP to other nations any longer—rather, the United States tries to convince the Russians of our "good intentions."

"And your strength shall be spent in vain." Our STRENGTH has gone to many hired "lovers" among other nations—and all in vain. We tried to "buy" Russia with lend lease—Russia now threatens our very national existence with H-Bombs. We have tried to purchase friends in the Mideast, in Asia, in Europe. To no avail. They remain hostile, suspicious, filled with scorn and often open hatred for the United States and Britain.

In only one thing have we succeeded—and that to our own destruction. We have *spent* OUR OWN TAX DOLLARS to bring about the German dream of centuries—a UNITED EUROPE! We have "bought" this coming Frankenstein monster—which God says is destined to turn on us and destroy us.

Germany's Destiny

The *second* major factor is this tremendous RISE to power of Germany and Europe! We tend to judge the world situation in the light of seemingly *existing* factors. This you cannot safely do. God's sure word declares this present will CHANGE until we see the United States broken economically, BROKEN internally through drought, floods, famine, disease epidemics of such staggering proportions they will amaze the world! We will see EUROPE on the ascendancy, having encircled the globe with economic and political ties, until there remain but two major power blocs—Europe and Asia. The United States and Britain will have nowhere to turn.

Germany and Europe will have "captured" Africa economically, and, through trade embargoes, kept our exports out. South America, anti-American and anti-British already, will have gone principally fascist—leaving us nowhere to turn.

An ATTACK Is Coming!

Here is God's final warning!

"Wherefore, as I live, saith the Lord Eternal; Surely, because thou hast defiled my sanctuary with all thy detestable things, and with all thine abominations, therefore will I also *diminish* thee, neither shall mine eye spare, neither will I have any pity.

"A THIRD PART OF THEE SHALL DIE WITH THE PESTILENCE, and with FAMINE shall they be consumed in the midst

of thee: and a THIRD PART SHALL FALL BY THE SWORD round about thee; and I will SCATTER A THIRD PART INTO ALL THE WINDS, and I will draw out a sword after them!" (Ezek. 5:11-12).

Two years ago, Mr. Herman Hoeh showed in this magazine how God's word prophesied DISEASE EPIDEMICS would strike the United States in TWO SHORT YEARS!

THOSE EPIDEMICS ARE BEGINNING NOW!

And they will grow MUCH WORSE!

God prophesies that finally, within the next fifteen years, fully ONE THIRD of our whole population will die of disease and famine! *While* we are so weakened—with a monstrous problem of dead and dying in our lands, we will "call" upon our "hired lovers" such as Germany.

The book of Lamentations represents the cryings of God's people in their affliction. It deals NOT ONLY with Judah, but also with all of *Israel* whose descendants finally settled America, Britain, and other Democracies of Northwest Europe (See Lam. 2:2-3).

"I called for *my lovers* (allies), but they deceived me . . ." (Lam. 1:19). "Behold O Eternal, for I am in distress," cries the voice of afflicted Jacob (*Israel*), "I have grievously rebelled, *abroad* [in our outlying possessions] the sword be-reaveth [enemies attack our colonies, our outposts, our embassies], at *home* there is as death [from the disease and famines sweeping our lands]. They have heard that I sigh [the world KNOWS of our terrible plight]: there is NONE to comfort me, all mine enemies have heard of my trouble, they are GLAD that thou hast done it" (Lam. 1:20-21).

"All thine enemies have opened their mouth against thee, they say, 'We have swallowed her up, certainly this is the day that we looked for! We have found, we have seen it'" (Lam. 2:16). All our supposed "friends" will literally REJOICE in our abject misery and punishment. There will be DANCING and SINGING in foreign capitals over our fall from our present positions of power.

"Our inheritance is turned to strangers, our houses to aliens." "We have given the hand to the Egyptians and to the Assyrians, to be satisfied with bread."

This is used as a *type* of modern

Israel and not of Judah only. Note Lamentations 2:1-5, where God shows this prophecy is for JACOB, or ISRAEL, as well as the tribe of Judah.

YOU Can KNOW

Keep reading *The PLAIN TRUTH* magazine—write in for the *Correspondence Course*—keep listening to *The World Tomorrow* program.

The PLAIN TRUTH about CHRISTMAS

(Continued from page 8)

portant part of all in this Christmas observance—the Christmas SHOPPING season—the buying and exchanging of GIFTS—many will exclaim triumphantly, "Well, at least the Bible tells us to do THAT! Didn't the wise men give gifts when Christ was born?"

Isn't Exchanging GIFTS Scriptural?

Again, we are due for some SURPRISES, when we learn the PLAIN TRUTH! First, let's look at the historic origin of trading gifts back and forth, then see exactly what the Bible *does* say about it.

From the Bibliotheca Sacra, Vol. 12, pages 153-155, we quote. "The interchange of presents between friends is alike characteristic of Christmas and the Saturnalia, and *must have been adopted by Christians from the Pagans*, as the admonition of Tertullian plainly shows."

The fact is, this custom fastened upon people of exchanging gifts with friends and relatives at the Christmas season *has not a single trace of Christianity about it!* Strange tho that may seem! This does NOT celebrate Christ's birthday or honor it or Him! Suppose someone you love has a birthday. You want to honor that person on his or her birthday. Would you lavishly buy gifts for *everyone else*, trading gifts back and forth with all your *other* friends and loved ones, but IGNORE COMPLETELY any gift for the one whose birthday you are honoring? Rather absurd, when viewed in that light, isn't it?

Yet this is exactly what people the world over are doing! They honor a day that is NOT Christ's birthday by spending every dime they can scrape together

You can know what is coming. God has not left us in the dark! He has set His watchmen to cry aloud, to publish the warnings—showing the specific day by day fulfillments of prophecy—warning of the TREMENDOUS events just ahead. THIS WORK IS CARRYING OUT THIS MISSION AS NO OTHER WORK ON THE FACE OF THIS EARTH IS DOING!

Will YOU heed?

in buying presents to trade back and forth among friends and relatives. But I can say by years of experience, as I believe most pastors and ministers can say, that when the month of December rolls around, nearly all professing Christians forget to give gifts to CHRIST and HIS CAUSE almost altogether! December often is the most difficult month to keep CHRIST's work from dying! People are too busy TRADING gifts back and forth among themselves to think of HIM and HIS WORK, it seems. Then, in January and even into February it seems they have to catch up from what they spent for Christmas, so they seldom get back to normal in supporting CHRIST and HIS WORK before March!

Now consider what the Bible says about giving gifts when Christ was born. It is in Matthew 2:1-11. "Now when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, there came wise men from the east to Jerusalem, saying Where is he that is born King of the Jews? . . . And when they were come into the house, they saw the young child with Mary his mother, and fell down, and worshipped him: *and when they had opened their treasures, they presented unto HIM gifts; gold, and frankincense, and myrrh.*"

WHY Gifts Presented to Christ

Notice, they inquired for the child Jesus, who was born KING of the Jews! Now WHY did they present gifts to Him? Because it was His birthday? Not at all, because they came several days after the date of his birth! Was it to set an example for US, today, to trade gifts back and forth among ourselves? No, notice carefully!—they did not *exchange*

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gifts among themselves, but "they presented unto HIM gifts." They gave THEIR gifts to CHRIST, not to their friends, relatives, or one another!

WHY? Let me quote from the Adam Clarke Commentary Vol. 5, page 46: "Verse 11. (*They presented unto him gifts*). The people of the east never approach the presence of kings and great personages, without a *present* in their hands. The custom is often noticed in the Old Testament, and still prevails in the east, and in some of the newly discovered South Sea Islands."

There it is! They were not instituting a NEW Christian custom of exchanging gifts with friends to honor Christ's birthday. They were following an OLD and ANCIENT eastern custom of presenting gifts to a KING when they come into his presence. They were approaching Him, born KING of the Jews, *in person*. Therefore custom required they present GIFTS—even as the Queen of Sheba brought gifts to Solomon—even as many people today take a gift along when they visit the White House for an appointment with the President.

No, the custom of TRADING GIFTS back and forth does not stem from this Scriptural incident at all, but rather, as quoted from history above, it is the *continuance* of an ancient PAGAN custom. Instead of honoring Christ, it invariably RETARDS His work, often sets it back, at the Christmas season every year!

Does It Make Any Difference?

But isn't it all right to keep Christmas if we do it to honor Christ?

Listen! *Your eternity* may depend on the answer! These are the authentic facts of history! YOU are soon—very soon—going to stand before the judgment bar of Christ! Don't say carelessly: "Well, here's the way I look at it"; or, "I don't think it makes any difference."

God says *it makes a difference*. God says there is a way that *seems right* to a man—to YOU—but the end thereof are the ways of death! You will be judged by WHAT GOD SAYS—not by what you think! God says this whole world today is DECEIVED!

Jesus Christ—the Word of God—spoke to Moses to warn YOU not to follow these Christmas customs of the heathen. Here is what Jesus Christ said:

"Take heed . . . that thou inquire *not* after their gods, saying: 'How used these nations to serve their gods? even so will I do likewise.' THOU SHALT NOT DO SO UNTO THE ETERNAL THY GOD; FOR EVERY ABOMINATION TO THE ETERNAL, which He hateth, have they done unto their gods" (Deut. 12:30-31).

Here is what God says—it doesn't matter what we think—but it DOES MATTER what God thinks. He calls these pagan Christmas customs *abominations*.

No wonder the apostles did not teach the early spirit-filled New Testament Church of God to observe these traditions of men!

Consider *doubly* what Jeremiah was inspired to write: "*Learn not the way of the heathen . . . for the customs of the people are vain*"? (Jer. 10:2).

No, God *forbids* you to worship Him by the pagan custom of Christmas!

We're IN BABYLON, and Haven't KNOWN IT!

Christmas has become a COMMERCIAL season. It's sponsored, kept alive, by the heaviest retail advertising campaigns of the year. You see a masqueraded "Santa Claus" in many stores. Ads keep us deluded and deceived about the "beautiful Christmas SPIRIT." The newspapers, who sell the ads, print flowery editorials exalting and eulogizing the pagan season, and its "spirit." A gullible people has become so inoculated, many take offense when told the TRUTH! But the "Christmas SPIRIT" is created each year, not to honor Christ, but to SELL MERCHANDISE! Like all Satan's delusions, it appears as an "angel of LIGHT," is made to appear GOOD. BILLIONS OF DOLLARS are spent in this merchandising spree every year, while the CAUSE OF CHRIST must SUFFER! It's part of the economic system of BABYLON!

We are God's people ISRAEL! Yes, we're IN BABYLON, as Bible prophecy foretold, and we don't know it! "Come OUT of her, my people, that ye be not partakers of her SINS, and that ye receive not of HER PLAGUES"—now soon to fall—is the warning of Rev. 18:4. THIS YEAR, INSTEAD OF GIFT-TRADING, WHY NOT PUT THAT MONEY INTO GOD'S WORK?