

NOT BY MIGHT, NOR BY POWER, BUT BY MY SPIRIT, SAITH THE LORD



The PENTECOSTAL EVANGEL

THEY TESTIMONIES ALSO ARE MY DELIGHT AND MY COUNSELLORS



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Traveling by the Long Road

A NEW YEAR'S MESSAGE
BY
W. GRAHAM SCROGGIE

AND it came to pass, when Pharaoh had let the people go, that God led them not through the way of the land of the Philistines, although that was near; for God said, Lest peradventure the people repent when they see war, and they return to Egypt: but God led the people about, through the way of the wilderness of the Red Sea." Exod. 13:17, 18.

At first sight that strikes us as strange, although a reason is given. Was there no alternative to the long way?

The Providence of the Long Road

The shortest way may not be the surest. Short cuts to the goal are often dangerous cuts. There may be a very real peril in a cross-country track. From Egypt to Canaan was about a week's journey, yet the Israelites were led two hundred miles out of the course, and took forty years to get into the land, entering it from the east instead of from the west. Probably the Israelites did not regard the route as providential, yet events proved that it was, and for at least three reasons.

First, because of their inability quickly to appreciate the blessings of the land. These people had been told of the value of Palestine agriculturally, geographically, and historically, but had they entered it in about a week after leaving Egypt, it would have been without any due sense of their privilege. Great blessings easily come by, are generally little thought of. It is the man who does not earn his wealth who often squanders it. The things we value most are the things which have cost us most.

In the second place, this way was providential for the Israelites because of their inability resolutely to overcome the resistance of the foe. The Philistines were a strong and warlike people, and any attempt on the part of Israel

to enter the land on their side of it, would have provoked the utmost hostility, and certainly to Israel's discomfiture. This people's experience in Egypt had not prepared them for war, and humanly speaking, the short road would have meant for them utter destruction.

No Short Cuts to Conquest

Let us never pray for easy victories. There are no short cuts to conquest. Bloodless battles in this warfare decide nothing; they are generally evasions. For lasting results there must be costly preparation, and for this, the long

road is needed. We have never seen the last or the worst of our enemies until death is destroyed. 1 Cor. 15:26.

In the third place, the Israelites needed this way because of their inability at once to shoulder the responsibility of government. In Egypt they had been a horde of slaves, but in Canaan they were to be a properly constituted and well-organized nation. Such a change could not be wrought in a week. Nations are not made in a day. They have small beginnings as in the *Mayflower*, and grow strong and able by failure and success, sorrow and joy, suffering and struggle, until, as in the United States today, they can shoulder an estimable share of the world's load.

And this is true also of the individual. The burden is suited to the back while the back is being strengthened for heavier burdens. Sometimes we crave for great responsibilities, for a position of trust and power, little knowing that such would be our ruin. Responsibility belongs only to experience, and we can gain but little experience in the short road.

There are no cross-country cuts to an empire. Even Christ came to that by way of the wilderness. Travail must precede birth. Struggle must go before sovereignty. Training must be undergone in order to accomplish any worth-while achievement. Only the long road brings us to Canaan. We should thank God, therefore, for the detours in our road, for the circuitous route, for the wilderness way which saves us from irrecoverable defeat at the beginning.

Necessity of the Long Road

Such a road as this is necessary for the purpose of self-discovery. The Israelites would have discovered themselves too late had they gone to Canaan by the short (Continued on Page Four)

**NOT A
NEW LEAF
TO TURN**

**BUT A
NEW LIFE
TO RECEIVE**

"He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son of GOD hath NOT life." 1 John 5:12.

A Small Man but a Big God

H. WOMERSLEY, CONGO BELGE

NOAH and his wife are simple, earnest believers, living in the Kibanza country—a country just emerging from cannibalism, whose people are primitive, undersized, undernourished, and backward, yet among whom the glorious gospel is spreading rapidly. Scattered among these quarrelsome, superstitious little people there are groups of sincere and happy Christians who gather daily to worship God and to sing the praises of Him who has brought them out of darkness into His marvelous light. They are building their own little places of worship—some grass and stick sheds, others mud and wattle, like a native hut but bigger, while others are creditable structures of sun-baked brick.

In Noah's village they have a mud-and-wattle building, and the congregation is composed of a good proportion of the younger married and unmarried people of the village, with a sprinkling of elderly women who have been won from heathenism by their sons and daughters. The church is also a school, and daily the children gather to learn to read the Word of God.

Noah is not a full-fledged evangelist or pastor, nor yet a trained teacher. He is just a helper, one of the many scores of faithful believers who give their time and service in caring for little groups of God's black children in little out-of-the-way villages and hamlets all over our Congo Field.

Noah's wife, too, is a simple soul, not over-burdened with knowledge, but very sure of one thing—she knows whom she has believed. She knows that Jesus has cleansed her by His precious blood and delivered her from superstition and sin. She can read, in a halting way, her New Testament, and her husband explains to her what she cannot understand. Together they are very happy in the work and testimony.

Some time ago joy came to this happy couple, and they looked forward day by day to the arrival of their first-born. Lubans love children, and a childless house is usually a sad and discontented one. According to native custom, Noah's wife's people—rank heathen—came from their village to supervise certain superstitions which were supposed to ensure the safe journey into the world of the expected little one, protected by the right tribal spirit.

They had just got nicely going, when, to their great surprise, little Noah—he stands barely five feet high—came up and quietly but firmly told them that Christians no longer followed superstitious customs, that they worshiped the Lord Jesus Christ, our Savior, and so could not ask for the protection of tribal spirits. It was God who had promised them a little one, and He would do the guiding of that little life into the world.

These heathen in-laws could hardly believe their ears. They had thought that Jesus-worship was only a matter of singing a few hymns and reading the white man's book,

and did not realize that it was a new experience and affected every part of native life and custom. They argued, they shouted, they threatened. Noah maintained his quiet witness and resistance to their heathenish ways. They threatened to beat him and said that if the child died they would make him pay a gun as damages. Finally, they declared they would take his wife back home again and give him back all the dowry he had paid for her.

Noah's wife was called and told to prepare to go home, and to leave her husband for good. It had never occurred to them that she too might resist, for native family ties are strong, and the wife belongs more to her family than to her husband, to whom she is not sold, but lent on the guarantee of a certain sum. But they had a bigger shock than when Noah protested with them, to hear their own daughter say that her conversion was a very real thing, that she loved and served Jesus, and that she would stand by her husband against all heathen customs. This was something unheard of—a

girl taking her husband's side against her own family.

Their indignation knew no bounds, and they set off home again in anger, declaring they would know her no more as their child, but would throw her off altogether. This was an empty, blustering threat to cover their defeat, for they knew they would collect more payment from Noah for each child that should be born, and in the event of her death, they could claim enormous death-dues from the widower.

However, the situation was certainly serious, for these people are vindictive and revengeful. The local church gave itself to prayer. Everybody knew that should Noah's wife or child die, their beloved leader would be blamed, and would be bullied and persecuted by those heathen people, and be stripped of every possession he had.

When the anxious day came those faithful souls prayed unceasingly, and oh—God be praised—their prayers were answered, and without any superstitious quackery or demonic interference, a lovely child was born. Noah was so delighted he sent to those heathen relations to "come and see." Not in any spirit of "I told you so," but in a simple, loving and generous spirit, to show them the faithfulness of God. They came—amazed, humbled, and, best of all, the ringleader of the trouble-makers yielded to God, and so the test ended in glorious triumph and victory.

The Altar in the Home

WM. F. McDERMOTT, RELIGIOUS EDITOR "CHICAGO DAILY NEWS"

"Martha received Him into her house." Luke 10:38.

Martha busied herself about her duties, but Mary "hath chosen that good part, which shall not be taken away from her."

When Christ truly comes into the home we honor him by

1. *Daily study of God's Word.* The strength of America is that it has been built on the foundation of God, not gold. Pioneers pushed westward with their rifles and axes and Bibles, armed most of all with the Sword of the Spirit. Circuit-riders with their saddlebags full of Bibles and hymn books pushed through the wilderness to bring the Word of God to the frontier. They founded homes and built schools and colleges and churches, trained ministers and teachers, and gave to the people a heritage of Christian faith and service. The open Bible was the symbol of the new America, and on the sturdy character that came out of Bible-reading family circles a great civilization has been built. But now in only too few homes is the Bible opened and studied and its precepts followed. One great denomination reports that fewer than half its people study the Bible or have grace at meals. One chaplain says that only twenty per cent of his men know the Lord's Prayer.

2. *Daily prayer.* If we know and love a person, we want to talk to him or her. Love starves and dies where there is no mutual recognition.

The church today is not dying of opposition but of anemia. We must feed the body or we perish; likewise we must feed the soul or it dies. Fellowship daily with God in prayer is nurture that brings health to the weakest, the neediest, and the most starved. Daily prayer that seeks to find God and to know His will, to honor Christ and acknowledge Him as the Lord of life, and to invoke the indwelling of the Spirit in all of life—that will bring victory.

3. *Daily service.* Every day brings its opportunities to give the cup of cold water, to visit the sick, to feed the hungry, and to witness for Christ. This should begin in the home. A certain man for years has had the habit of starting the day off with a good deed; he calls it his "day-maker" and says it sets the pace for happy living. Good deeds toward each other in the home, kindness to every one we contact—that is a life of blessedness. Faith without works is dead. "By their fruits ye shall know them."

Here is a spiritual trinity for the Christian home—study the Word of God, pray for God's leadership, serve in Christ's Name! This is the foundation of rock which guarantees any home built upon it against any storm!

On every page in the annals of history, it is written that God reigns.—George Bancroft (Historian).

"I Was Not Afraid to Die"

HYMAN APPELMAN

Dr. George Truett used to tell the following story again and again. He held a service in the junior department of his own Sunday School in his great church in Dallas. When he gave the invitation, about seventy juniors came down the aisles for the Lord Jesus Christ. Most of them joined the church. Dr. Truett went about his business. That Thursday night he received a telephone call from the Baylor Hospital in Dallas. A sick girl wanted to see him. The little girl, Nellie by name, was ill with influenza. Her father and mother were with her, and Doctor Truett led them in prayer. When he started for the door, the little girl—one of those who had accepted Christ on the previous Sunday—called him back.

"Will you do me a favor?" she asked.

"Certainly. What is it?"

"Will you go to my department Sunday, and ask for me? If I am not there tell them where I am, and ask them to pray for me. Tell them Nellie said she wasn't afraid, because she has trusted Christ."

Sunday Dr. Truett saw that the child was not in Sunday school. He delivered her message and went on about his preaching. Saturday another telephone call came. Nellie was dying. Her parents wanted to see Dr. Truett. He rushed to the hospital, and found the mother and father standing at the foot of the bed, weeping. The child was stretched out on her back. Her eyes were closed, and her face was pale with approaching death. Dr. Truett talked quietly to her parents. After a while the girl, opening her eyes, saw her mother and father weeping. Moistening her dry lips, in a hoarse, small voice, she asked, "Why are you crying?"

They cried all the harder, naturally. Dr. Truett answered,

"Because you are going to leave them. You are going to be with Jesus." It took her a while to understand.

"You mean I am going to die?" she asked.

"I'm sorry, but you are. You are leaving Daddy and Mamma and going to heaven."

She closed her eyes and whimpered softly, too ill to cry hard. Then she thought of something. Her face glowed with smiles. Lifting herself on her elbows in her eagerness, she said,

"I'm not afraid. I am a Christian. I am going to heaven. Don't cry, Daddy. Don't cry, Mamma. The first thing I am going to tell Jesus is how both of you told me about Him, and got me to love Him. I will be waiting for you. Don't cry. Please don't cry."

She continued to comfort her mother and father. The minutes ticked along. Her face grew more pale. She turned to Dr. Truett. He got down on his knees and pressed his ear against her lips. She was whispering.

"Will you go to my department again Sunday? I won't be there, will I?"

"No. You will be in the Sunday School

where Jesus is the Superintendent and the angels are the teachers."

"Will you tell them where I am? Tell them I was not afraid to die because I have trusted Jesus. Tell them Nellie said for all of them to give their hearts to Jesus, so when they die they'll not be afraid either."

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A WEEK OF PRAYER

Assemblies all over the world are observing January 7 to 14 as a special week of prayer.

We know of no better way of beginning 1945 than by a week of united prayer.

Strength Sufficient

E. C. W. BOULTON

"As thy days so shall thy strength be."—Deut. 33:25.

Day by day Thyself reveal
As I walk life's pilgrim way;
Ever make Thy presence real,
Never let me from Thee stray.

How different are the days in their content; what varying experiences they bring; and how boldly some days stand out above the remainder. There are days of dire and desperate need, when the soul is sore beset and finds it well-nigh impossible to sustain the conflict, when attack after attack is launched against the defenses of the believer, and all his moral and spiritual resources are threatened with exhaustion. Then there are those days which seem almost interminable in length; times when we long for eventide that we may hide our humiliation in the friendly shades of night; days that we would fain forget because of the pain which they have brought, and the shadow which they have cast o'er life.

"As thy days so shall thy strength be." Here is a promise which covers all the days, and which covers all the changing moods of the days. Sunshine or shadow, pain or pleasure, mirth or melancholy, triumph or tragedy, this all-sufficient promise comes to greet us with its enheartening message.

Equal to all the demands which the days can make is the strength which God supplies to His saints. Unfailing is the daily supply; always in the hour of emergency the needed grace is forthcoming from the hand of God. And so I may rejoice that—

PAINTED WOMEN

THOUGH thou rentest thy face with painting, in vain shalt thou make thyself fair." Thus saith the Lord. And yet women follow the fashions of this wicked, Christ-rejecting world and paint their faces in a vain attempt to make themselves attractive. What an abomination in the sight of God!

Cannibals and savages use paint but, when they become Christians they give it up. Can Spirit-filled women adopt heathen customs?

I have yet to meet a Christian man to whom a painted woman makes an appeal. To most men she is hideous and repulsive. What man wants to kiss painted lips? Women think they can improve the lovely, natural lips and finger nails God has given them. As if man could improve on God's work!

A few years ago only the harlots painted. That was how men recognized them. Do Christian women want to look like harlots? The Bible says of Jezebel that "she painted her face," but it calls her "that cursed woman," and dogs ate her flesh. 2 Kings 9:30-37.

Every time I see a lovely face spoiled by paint, something within me revolts and my heart is pained. How must God feel!

"Though thou rentest thy face with painting, in vain shalt thou make thyself fair." Jer. 4:30. How true!—Daniel Strong.

This day my strength shall equal be
To all Thy will demands of me.

Blessed Lord, teach me to trust Thee wholly and not dishonor Thee by my fears for the future. Thou who hast been the God of today wilt also be the God of tomorrow. With the dawn of a new day Thou wilt do a new thing within me—a new creation shall take place that shall make me equal to the responsibilities that await me with the sunrising.

I thank Thee that this day has yielded its rich treasures of experience, and as Thou hast led me "moment by moment" through its depths, Thou hast displayed Thy power and disclosed Thy wisdom, teaching me that Thou art the God of the unfathomable and immeasurable. Thou hast permitted the surrounding darkness to grow deeper and denser that I might learn to value the light within. Thou hast allowed me to tread the pathless desert that therein Thou couldst reveal Thyself to my trembling heart, and cause me to break forth into song even amid such environment. I bless Thee for ALL the days; there is not one of them that fails to bring some added sense of Thy nearness, some new evidence of Thy love, some fresh proof of Thy constancy and care. "Day unto day uttereth speech," revealing Thy loving kindness and Thy tender mercy.

Let each day a chapter add
To the story of Thy grace;
Make the moments rich in praise,
While in all Thy hand I trace.

Overcoming the Accuser

THERE is therefore now *no condemnation* to them which are in Christ Jesus." Never listen to the accuser of the brethren, for he will ever endeavor to get you to limit the Holy One of Israel. Ever be looking to the limitless expanse of God's mercy and grace. Abundance of grace! Grace to swallow up all condemnation!

Do not spend all your time examining yourself in analytic introspection. Keep looking unto Jesus. If God be for us, who can be against us? If you and your house are "under the blood," the destroying angel cannot touch you. Exodus 12:23.

Resist the devil and he will flee from you, and resist him not only for yourself but for the church of God. The devil is the *accuser of the brethren*, and if he cannot accuse them of one sin he will bring up imaginations. "Your adversary, the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour; *whom resist steadfast in the faith.*"

And one of the subtleties of the enemy is to endeavor to make you believe that all your morbid introspections are from God. We have not such a petty God. Don't measure God by your own petty feelings. He is infinite in wisdom and strength and boundless grace.

Get a vision of God and His infiniteness. When the enemy reproaches you and says to you daily, "Where is thy God?" cry out like the Psalmist, "Why art thou cast down, O my soul? and why art thou disquieted within me? hope thou in God, for I shall *yet* praise Him!" *Praise defeats the foe.* The living creatures in the Revelation cease not day nor night in their praise, and God would have a people ever doing the same.

The enemy seeks in every way to come in, but we are not ignorant of his devices, for we are not of the night but of the day. 1 Thess. 5:5. Never yield to the temptation to measure God by the devil's rule. He limits God all the time. "Can God do this or that? Can God furnish a table in the wilderness? Yea, hath God said this?" The children of Israel listened, and they complained of God's provision. "Our soul loatheth this light bread!" They wanted to go back to Egypt. They listened to the devil and *they fell by the way.*

Never listen to him. He is the accuser of the brethren. He is going to be cast out of the heavenly places, but before that, when he knows his time is short, he will multiply his accusations. Accusation upon accusation at the children of God! How? Through others, directly or indirectly.

When you hear an accusation against a child of God, remember who is the prompter. The accuser of the brethren will be cast out, and *those who lend their lips to his accusations must mind lest they themselves are cast down with him.* You have not so learned Christ.

"Where are thine accusers?" Jesus asked the woman. Then He told her, "Neither do I condemn thee." There is no condemnation to those that are in Christ Jesus. Why? Because He Himself has had all the condemnation the devil could give. He was condemned by the

priests, by Pilate, and His own people denied Him. And those who are in Christ Jesus are not condemned, because He was condemned for them.

He whom the Son sets free is free indeed. Free now, and for time and eternity! Walk as freed people and do not come under the condemnation of the enemy. The Lord has grace upon grace for you, for He is full of grace. Praise Him for the greatness of His grace, for the greatness of His victory, and for the greatness of your freedom.

TRAVELING BY THE LONG ROAD

(Continued From Page One)

road, for they would not have proved their utter weakness and sinfulness, and consequently, would have undertaken tasks for which they were not fit, and failing, would have run away.

It is not the picnic which tests us, but the fatiguing journey; not the stroll by the river, but the march through the desert. It is as necessary a part of our education to learn what we are not, and cannot do, as to know what we are, and can do. Through these forty years they were making one long discovery of their exceeding sinfulness. God says that they tempted and provoked Him ten times. Each of us must discover his unworthiness if he would be of any use to God.

Israel's Deficiency Their Delay

Then, such a road as this is necessary for the exercise of moral discipline.

The real reason for the long road lay, not in the Philistines, but in the Israelites themselves

ANOTHER YEAR

Another year is dawning;
Dear Master, let it be,
In working or in waiting
Another year for Thee!

Another year of leaning
Upon Thy loving breast,
Of ever-deepening trustfulness,
Of quiet, happy rest:

Another year of mercies,
Of faithfulness and grace;
Another year of gladness
In the shining of Thy face;

Another year of progress;
Another year of praise;
Another year of proving
Thy presence "all the days."

Another year of service,
Of witness for Thy love;
Another year of training
For holier work above.

Another year is dawning;
Dear Master, let it be,
On earth or else in heaven,
Another year for Thee!

—Frances Ridley Havergal

They had not learned to obey, nor to endure. They were deficient in courage and faith. As yet they were still in their moral and spiritual infancy.

So our life is our school. Every mile has its lesson, and every minute its message. When Satan tempts us, God tests us. Failure is a challenge to courage. Difficulty is an opportunity for faith. Privation and disappointment are calls for endurance. Our curriculum is severe according to the value of the degree we would take. Discipline is the business of life, and has for its end moral perfection. The cross is our friend and not our enemy. Where there is no difficulty, there is no deliverance. No sense of need, means no cry to God. No dark night, means no blazing stars. The wilderness and the long road are our friends.

Then, again, such a road is necessary for the opportunity of military training. The Israelites were not used to arms and had never fought a battle. They were, therefore, no match for the Philistines and the Anakim, so God sent them into the wilderness to learn. Their tests were graded and their progress was gradual. This is always God's way with His people. He does not send us to the front-line trenches to begin with, but He sends us first to camp, then to the base, then forward a little to observe, and so gradually on to life's big battles, and to the great victories, if only we are faithful.

It will be well then, if we see that the circuitous route is providential and necessary. But we should not suppose that such a way as this is hard necessity only. There is tenderness in God's discipline of us. There is glory in the struggle. Seeming impoverishment may be great enrichment. We should not be hasty in our judgments, but should take the long view of the difficult way.

The Compensations of the Long Road

One of these is divine companionship and guidance. We are not alone on this road. God is with us. Twice in our text it says, "God led them." The way in which God is, must be the best way. The shortest journey without Him will be long, and the longest with Him will be short. He does not *send* us "round about," but *leads* us; and so the way will not be unnecessarily long. The most difficult journey is made easy when the companionship is right. When Christ is with us the desert will blossom as the rose. He Himself did not take the short way, though He was tempted so to do. The Devil bade Him attain at once to sovereignty, but the price was the abandonment of faith, and reason, and conscience, and Christ said "No," and took the long road by Calvary. To take the short cut will be to miss Him, and also the goal. Surely this companionship and guidance will make the long road gloriously worth while.

Another compensation is divine provision. Water from the rock, and bread from heaven. God not only leads us, but also feeds us. The Twenty-third Psalm is full of meaning in this connection. The Lord is our Shepherd, we shall not want: shall not want rest (v. 2), or guidance (vv. 2, 3), or grace (v. 3), or companionship (v. 4), or protection (v. 4), or food (v. 5), or joy (v. 5), or drink (v. 5), or anything, either in this life (v. 6), or in the life to come (v. 6). In this light the long road loses its terrors. In the wilderness waters break out, and streams in the desert; the parched ground becomes a pool, and the thirsty land springs of water. With such companionship and provision we can sing our song in the night.

Character the Reward of Discipline

It was in the wilderness that the Israelites received the revelation of God's will for them and of their way of approach to Him, in the law, the tabernacle, the priesthood and the offerings. In the wilderness were laid the foundations of revealed religion. There the people were not only led and fed, but also taught. How true it is that "knowledge by suffering entereth." Character is the reward of discipline.

The long road took Ezekiel to the Chebar, but there he saw the temple vision. The long road took Paul to a Roman prison, but there he saw divine things more fully and clearly than ever he had seen them before, and what he saw he has shown us in Ephesians and Colossians. The long road took John to the Island of Patmos, but there the gates of the future were opened to him, and he saw the triumph of Calvary in the universal kingdom of Christ. The long road took Bunyan to Bedford jail, but from there he has enriched the whole Church of God. The whole story can never be told. When the saints of all the ages bear their final witness, they will declare with one voice that *the long road was the right road*. Then let us foot it, not grudgingly, but gladly, not with limping feet, but with lilted heart; not with reluctant submission, but with grateful acquiescence. If we do this, our weights will be transfigured into wings, and our handicaps will become stepping stones to glory.—*Moody Monthly*.

THE OLD AND THE NEW

W. B. McCafferty

"We are standing on the threshold;
We are near the open door;
We are treading on a borderland
We've never tried before.
Another year is op'ning, another year is gone,
We've pass'd the darkness of the night,
We'll hail the breaking dawn!"

The old year is going; the new is beginning. We now look backward on the past and forward to the future. The tears of *yesterday* must give place to the sorrows of *today*; likewise the blessings of the *past* are repeated in the joys of the *present*. The old year was filled with both weal and woe; and the new year will bring its share of tears and triumphs. Let us not weep over joys departed, nor seek to live by the blessings of past years. But let us "forget the things which are behind," and "reach forth unto those things which are before." For sufficient unto the day—and the year—are the evils thereof.

Let us know that our joys and our blessings far outweigh the sorrow and the tears that are our portion in this world. Let faith look, not at the things which are temporal, but at the things which are eternal. "For eye hath not seen, ear hath not heard, neither hath it entered into the heart of man what God hath prepared for them that love Him." To faith only are the hidden mysteries revealed—the mysteries of grace, of love, of the benefits of trial and tribulation, and of heavenly things.

Hast thou thy faith? Yet love is still the greatest.
And hast thou hope—bright hope of things to be?
Yet dwell in love, for love is ever sweetest.
And love shall last through all eternity.

Come!

Who? Pastors, Evangelists, Superintendents, Teachers and Children's Workers.

Where? National Sunday School Convention at Springfield, Missouri.

When? February 19-23.

Why? To promote the "Christ for the Homeland Crusade."

Theme: "Christian Leadership in America of Today."

A NEW OFFERING

Let us think of this opening year as an altar, whereon we may present to our God new offerings from our devoted hearts.

Pentecost was to be marked by "a new meat offering unto the Lord." It was called "the day of the first-fruits, when ye offer a new meat offering unto the Lord." Lev. 23:16; Num. 28:16. While we know that our blessed Redeemer is the secret, the key, the fulfilment of all those wonderfully prophetic sacrifices of Leviticus, and is the perfect Offering for sin, yet may we not spiritualize those words for a New Year's meditation and apply them to ourselves?

Have we no new offering for our Lord in these days of the first-fruits of the year?

Oxen Or Asses?

CHARLES T. STUDD

Where are the David Brainerds of today with the spirit that inspired him to say: "I cared not where or how I lived, or what hardships I went through, so that I could gain souls to Christ. When I was asleep I dreamed of these things; when I waked the first thing I thought of was this great work. I longed to be a flame of fire continually glowing in the service of God, and building up Christ's Kingdom to my latest, my dying moments."

Thank God there are still some such men, but their number is inadequate. David Brainerd only lived to be twenty-nine, but through his example, and the journals he left behind, he has inspired many men to respond to the missionary call. Perhaps through these words God is calling YOU.

From Japan, Paget Wilkes, wrote: "The thought that to be a *servant* of the Lord is the highest honor, privilege and duty of the Christian, has been much with me of late. All God's grace to us should tend thitherward. I fear spiritual enjoyment, Bible study, and attend-

Twelve months, rich with promise, are opening before us. The new calendar seems like a sheaf of the first-fruits, a promise and earnest of rich harvests of blessing. Have we then no new offering, no further step in devotion, no additional sacrifices to make? Unless ours is a dead, dull heart indeed, we can surely lay upon this new altar of 1945, some new treasures, new trophies, new triumphs, in grateful worship to Him whose perfect sacrifice has sanctified the altar!

"New treasures still, of countless price,
God will provide for sacrifice."

—Homera Homer-Dixon

ENDURING CONTRADICTIONS

Myer Pearlman

For I will give you a mouth of wisdom, which all your adversaries shall not be able to gainsay or resist. Luke 21:15.

A traveler in China was once watching a heated discussion between two Chinese coolies. Finally he said to his Chinese friend, "How is it that they can argue so vehemently without coming to blows?" "It is very simple," replied the wise Oriental; "they know that the first one who strikes a blow is confessing that he has run out of ideas."

When Stephen's opponents ran out of ideas they picked up stones. Let us search our own hearts: when worsted in a discussion, are we tempted to get even in some other way? Consider also this thought: losing our temper in a discussion may fairly be interpreted as a sign that we are wrong. The man who knows that he is right can afford to be calm.

As the false witnesses poured forth their accusations and twisted his words, Stephen was silent and kept sweet, and allowed his shining countenance to give the lie to the testimony.

The best way to answer a false accusation is to so live that no one will believe it.

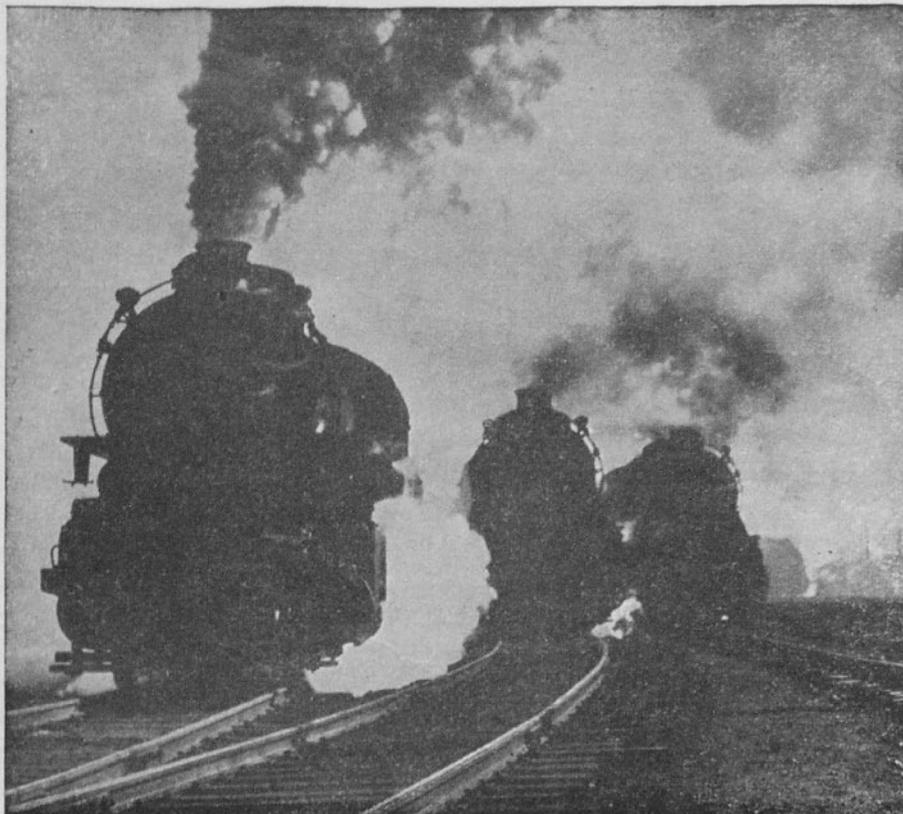
ance at conventions have in many cases been the substitute for *servant* the Lord. To be a servant is more than to serve, more than to exercise activity in religion and philanthropy, more than zeal for our church, denomination or work."

We may here aptly quote Spurgeon's comment after reading the following passage: "And there came a messenger unto Job, and said, The oxen were plowing, and the asses feeding beside them." "Yes," he said, lifting his eyes with a kindly glance round the crowded gallery, "That is still the case. Some of us are always plowing, breaking up the fallow ground, preparing the ground for good seed. And others are feeding, always feeding. I know some of you dear people. You would not miss a service if you could help it. *Feeding, everlastingly feeding!* It is good to feed, it is necessary to feed, but do a bit of gospel plowing as well, for the health of your souls and the glory of God."

Let us apply it—do you do any *plowing* or are you *everlastingly feeding*?

Wanted—*plowmen and sowers and reapers.*

The Forward Drive in Forty-Five!



Henceforth . . .

And now we turn our eyes from the past to the future—from that which God has already done, to that which is yet before us. We are thankful for the "hitherto" for it stands as a mighty monument to the faithfulness of God. But it must never rest there. That is the past; we are concerned about the future. A new year is now dawning, bringing with it new opportunities and even greater responsibilities. Once again as we step over the threshold of 1945 the outlook is gloomy with a world still drenched in blood and clenched in the deadlock of relentless warfare. But we take fresh courage as we remember what God has already performed; as we recall His promise to be with us, even to the end of the age and His command to occupy till He comes. The outlook is dark, but the uplook has never been brighter. As liberation comes to country after country and isle after isle, long-closed doors are opening one by one. In the wake of demolished buildings and famine, the world is conscious of its need of God as never before. This is the church's golden opportunity to prove to the world that Christianity is not "just another religion," but that it is practical and the power of God unto salvation.

Let us take heed to the warning of Dr. Robert Glover when he says: "I see in China at this time the glorious possibility of the greatest ingathering of souls to the fold of Christ that has ever been known in any mission field. I say the glorious POSSIBILITY, for let me remind you that this harvest is not yet an ACCOMPLISHED, an ASSURED harvest, but only a POTENTIAL one." The same is true the world around. With modern inventions such as the airplane, the radio and amphibious trucks, the evangelization of the rest of the world is a breath-taking possibility in our own generation. Whether it is accomplished or not DEPENDS UPON US. God is willing! God is working! If we are going to follow Him in this hour we must be prepared to make the utmost sacrifices in going, praying and giving.

"Hitherto" the Lord has helped us! "Henceforth" we roll up our sleeves for the task that lies ahead, adopting as our slogan: "A Forward Drive in '45!"

Hitherto . . .

"Hitherto hath the Lord helped us!" Twelve months ago we stepped over the threshold of 1944. Twelve months ago we turned our faces courageously to the unknown future. War was raging on every front. Famine and pestilence gripped nation after nation. It was a dark picture indeed for a war-weary world.

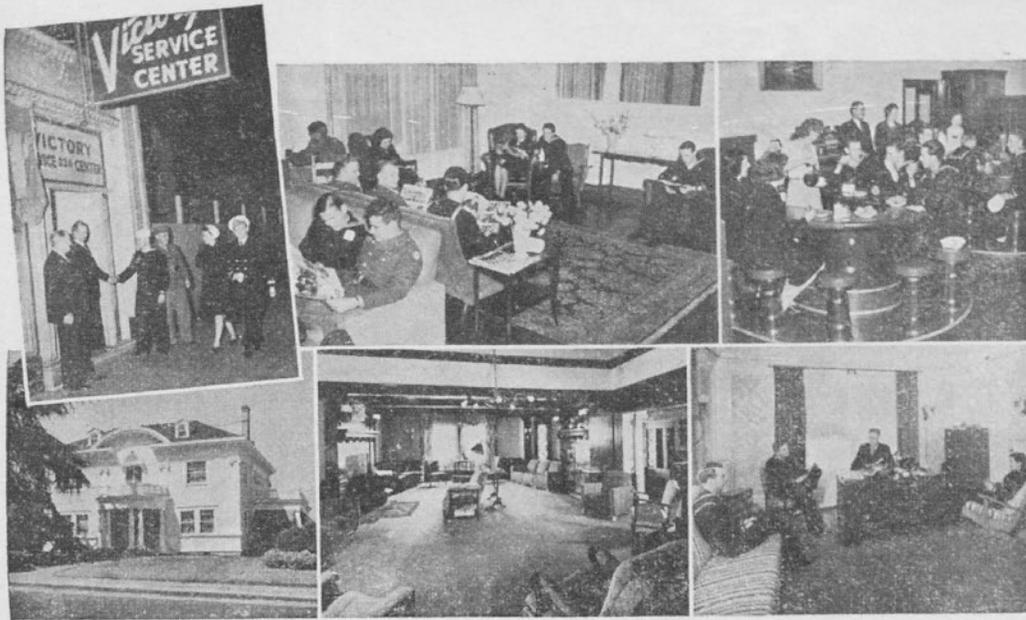
What about our missionary effort? Would there be further curtailments? Would it be increasingly difficult to send forth our eager young men and women to fulfill the command of our Lord? Would there be a general letting up in prayer and missionary offerings?

Today, at the close of the year, those questions can all be answered with a shout of victory! He who promised "Lo I am with you always!" is with us every step of the way. We launched forth with the slogan, "Let's Send More in '44!" There was a glorious response on the part of our young people. During the year, 88 missionaries were sent to the far corners of the earth, 54 of whom received their appointment during 1944. This is in comparison with 36 new appointments in 1943. So the Lord did enable us to "send more in '44!"

Along with this exodus of consecrated men and women, there came a general stirring throughout our entire constituency, a sharpening of vision, a quickening in prayer, a zealotness to buy up the opportunities of the hour, a determination to back up our missionary army financially and in every other way. As a result, \$860,449.06 were sent out to support the work that is being carried on all over the world in these days of crisis. Of this amount, \$217,516.46 has been sent to Africa. To China went \$71,001.59. The work in India received \$162,009.86. To the rapidly expanding work in South America went \$132,146.92. Other fields received a total of \$277,774.23. It will be of special interest to some to know that during the year \$25,472.92 was given to non-Council missionaries, \$12,852.00 to our European workers and \$9,916.62 to our aged missionaries.

But above everything else, we praise God for the encouraging reports that have come from every section during these past twelve months. Many fields have witnessed stirring revivals and unusual growth. There have been miraculous healings, baptisms in the Spirit and salvation to the darkest hearts. Many of our own American men in uniform have found Christ through the ministry of these missionaries in foreign lands. God is working in marvelous, mysterious ways! We praise Him for all that He has done in 1944!

Send all contributions to:
NOEL PERKIN
 336 W. PACIFIC ST.
 SPRINGFIELD, MO.



Serving Our Servicemen

AT OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA

Located in a city through which pass more service personnel than through any other port on the West Coast, the two Assembly of God "units of service" in Oakland, California, are doing a grand job of reaching men and women of the armed forces. Serving slightly different aspects of one great purpose, they work in very close co-operation, giving both physical and spiritual help to those who need it.

The Christian Home

The first of these centers to be opened was the Christian Home, which is the fulfillment of a dream long cherished by many of the Pentecostal people in the Bay area. Its establishment last spring in the face of many difficulties can be credited to the work and prayers of an enthusiastic group of pastors, evangelists, and Christian business men who realized the great possibilities in store for a project of this kind. The Home's first director was Watson T. Moore, who, with his wife, was responsible in a very large part for giving it a real start in this vitally important work.

Located at 108 Lake Street in truly beautiful surroundings, the Christian Home is exactly what the name implies—a **Christian Home** for servicemen. Beds are provided for from 40 to 50 men, and good home-cooked meals are furnished to all who are present at meal time. Books, magazines, and writing materials are provided for the fellows, and everything possible is done to make the atmosphere as homelike as can be. No charge is ever made for anything in the Home.

Someone is always present to testify of the saving power of Christ and to help the men in finding Him. So far, more than 1200 have professed or reaffirmed their acceptance of Jesus Christ as their personal Savior. One of the special features enjoyed by many is a personal workers' course. Through this valuable help, a Christian soldier or sailor becomes much better able to reach his buddies with the gospel. The present director is Floyd B. Johnson.

The Victory Service Center

The Victory Service Center at 226 14th Street, was opened and dedicated last October, since which time it has been blessed in a truly remarkable way. During the first month of its operation, more than 4100 men visited the Center and took advantage of its many free services—which means that those 4100 men were also exposed to at least a portion of gospel testimony. For while reading, writing, and recreational provisions are made for the relaxation and comfort of troubled minds, provision is also made for troubled **souls**, and God has given wonderful results. Personal workers are always on hand to talk with the boys, and many Christian servicemen are themselves doing a great work in testifying to others. So far, in the short period since the Center began, more than 150 men and women in uniform have been definitely converted, for which we certainly praise the Lord.

Among the many good things served to the fellows at the spacious canteen are pie, cake, sandwiches, doughnuts, coffee, milk, and cookies. These are provided each day by the church or churches who are the "hosts" for that particular evening, this being one of the ways in which the many co-operating churches are a real help. Under the capable leadership of Earle V. Jennison, the director of the Center, a large corps of assistants from the various participating organizations share the great amount of work required to maintain service for the scores of servicemen who daily make use of the Center's facilities.

As is the Christian Home, the Victory

Service Center is operated under the auspices of the Northern California and Nevada District and under supervision of the Servicemen's Department.

The continued operation of both of these and many other Service Centers, indeed, the entire maintenance of the many activities of the Servicemen's Department, depends upon the practical help **you** can give. It takes funds to rent buildings, to equip them, to provide the countless things the fellows need and want. It takes funds to publish and distribute REVEILLE, the favorite Christian servicemen's paper for the armed forces. It takes funds to reach men with the Gospel. Will you help?

Address all correspondence to:
SERVICEMEN'S DEPARTMENT
Gospel Publishing House, Springfield, Mo.

Coming Meetings

Due to the fact that the Evangel is made up 16 days before the date which appears upon it, all notices should reach us 13 days before that date.

BENTON, ARK.—Dec. 31—; L. L. Riley of Russellville, Evangelist.—L. R. Hampton, Pastor.

SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.—Glad Tidings Temple, Dec. 31—; Robert B. Thomas, Evangelist.—Leland R. Keys, Pastor.

REEDLEY, CALIF.—12th and E Sts.; Jan. 3, for 3 weeks; John H. Bostrom of Pasadena, Evangelist.—A. Harold Drake, Pastor.

LAUREL, MD.—Thirteenth Anniversary Revival, Glad Tidings Tabernacle, 9th and Montgomery Sts., Jan. 2-21; Mr. and Mrs. E. V. Berquist, Akron, Ohio, Evangelists.—B. M. Slye, Pastor and Founder.

FT. WORTH, TEXAS—1800 E. Vickery Blvd., Dec. 31—; Lee Krupnick, Tulsa, Okla., Evangelist.—Charles R. Jones, Pastor.

COLUMBUS, OHIO—50 Hayden Ave., Dec. 31—; Evangelist and Mrs. Chas. Shaffer, London, Ky.—D. G. Scott, Pastor.

SAN JOSE, CALIF.—Upper Room Mission, Dec. 31—; Hans F. Bretschneider, Chicago, Ill., Evangelist.—Max Fremark, Pastor.

YORK, PA.—C. A. Rally, South Central Section, Jan. 1, Services: Fellowship Meeting 2:30; C. A. Rally 7:30, Amelia Joseph, speaker.—A. D. Skyrer, Pastor.

PAW HUSKA, OKLA.—Ministers' Institute, Jan. 2-3. Speakers: F. C. Cornell and G. W. Hardcastle. Three services daily.—R. A. Work, Sectional Presbyter.

FORT WORTH, TEXAS—1326 S. Jennings. New Year's Eve meetings one day only, with C. A. Secretary Ralph W. Harris speaking at 10:50 a. m., 7:45 p. m., and at youth rally, 10:30 p. m.—C. N. Rice, Pastor.

OKMULGEE, OKLA.—New Year's Day Rally, Fifth and Seminole, 7:45 p. m., conducted by C. A.'s of this section. U. S. Grant of Bartlesville, guest speaker. Paul Copeland, host pastor.—Hattie C. Jennings, Sectional Representative.

GARY, IND.—Garyland Youth-for-Christ Rally, Emerson High School Auditorium, Jan. 6, night. Evangelist Christian Hild, Fargo, N. Dak., speaker. Meetings with different speakers every Saturday night.—Mirko Parlotz, Pastor, Gary Full Gospel Tabernacle.

OHIO NEW YEAR'S DAY RALLIES

Ohio C. A. New Year's Day Rallies, afternoon and evening: Cleveland, E. 55th St. and Lexington Ave., G. F. Lewis, speaker; East Liverpool, H. C. McKinney, speaker; Fostoria, Cecil Good, speaker; Cincinnati, Thomas Paino, speaker.—W. C. Stepp, Secretary.

BATAVIA, N. Y.—New Year's Day C. A. Rally, Western New York, Gospel Tabernacle, Center St., 2:30 p. m. Bring musical instruments. Burning of church mortgage, 7:00 p. m., District Superintendent Wesley R. Steelberg in charge. F. F. Peckham, former pastor, will speak in the afternoon. Sandwiches and coffee served.

Special services each night through January 7, with Brother Steelberg and the Spiritual Jubilee Singers of Chicago.—H. J. Snelgrove, Pastor.

YOUNGSTOWN, OHIO—Sixth Annual Ministers' Institute, sponsored by Northeast Ohio Fellowship, Highway Tabernacle, Marion and Hillman Sts., Jan. 8-10. Charles W. H. Scott, Battle Creek, Mich., main speaker, speaking each evening and once during the day. Tuesday and Wednesday mornings for ministers only; all other services open to the public. Other capable speakers. For program and other details write T. E. Hartshorn, 264 Rieg Ave., Conneaut, Ohio.

The PASSING and the PERMANENT

MILLION TESTAMENTS CAMPAIGN

George T. B. Davis of Philadelphia has published a special Prophecy Edition of the New Testament for free distribution among Jews. His goal is to have a million copies distributed. Already more than 600,000 have been given out, and another edition of 250,000 is well along the way. Keep praying for the Jews.

THE PROMISE TO ISRAEL

Field Marshal Smuts of South Africa recently said: "Twenty-seven years ago the Allies renewed an ancient promise to Israel that a national home would be founded for them in their ancient homeland. It is part of the international law of the world, and even more a matter for the conscience of mankind."

TEN-MILLION-DOLLAR GOAL

World Jewry is called upon to raise \$10,000,000 within the coming Jewish calendar year for large-scale land purchases in Palestine to settle Jewish Palestine's ex-servicemen, the thousands of refugees that have arrived there, and the great masses of homeless Jews who will seek to enter that promised land in the immediate future.

TROUBLE IN PALESTINE

The Holy Land is tense again with trouble. Through the tight censorship, says *Time*, trickle tales of Jewish terrorism against the British. Gangs of Jewish gunmen, often disguised in British battle dress, blew up police stations, shot at policemen, and even tried (unsuccessfully) to assassinate the British High Commissioner for Palestine, Sir Harold MacMichael.

THE JEWISH BRIGADE

In his speech before Parliament not long ago, Prime Minister Winston Churchill referred to the formation of the Jewish Brigade. "It seems to me appropriate," he said, "that a special unit of that race which has suffered indescribable torment from the Nazis should be represented as a distinct formation among the forces gathered for their final overthrow."

The Jewish Brigade is a part of the British Army, but is composed of Palestine Jews. Its formation is significant. It is the nearest approach to a Jewish national army that has been reached for many centuries, and points toward the day when "Judah also shall fight at Jerusalem." Zech. 14:14.

CIGARETTE CONSUMPTION

From the Philadelphia *Evening Bulletin* of a few weeks ago we quote as follows:

"As an illustration of the increased cigarette consumption, the organization (The Smaller Tobacco Manufacturers, Inc.) cited figures, taken from revenue stamp sales, showing that the output of all manufacturers rose from 18 billion in 1915, to 53 billion in 1918, to 92 billion in 1926, to 180 billion in 1940, to 309 billion in 1943 and an estimated 329 billion in 1944."

No wonder there is a shortage!

A LUCRATIVE MONTH?

"Colorado drank 1,927,355 gallons of beer, wine and liquor last month, netting the state \$399,430 in revenue to make it the most lucrative November since repeal in 1933," says an Associated Press dispatch. Lucrative for the time being, perhaps, but when one considers the crime, sickness, and other results which all this liquor will produce in the end, and the cost at which the State will have to deal with such results, it appears like anything but a lucrative proposition.

SPIRITUAL SABOTAGE

The *Bombay Examiner* reports that Shintoist priests, masquerading as Christian missionaries, have been appointed to "missions" in Japanese-occupied territory for the purpose of sabotaging the Christian faith. This statement is credited to Robert Bellaire, a newspaper correspondent, who says that Japan has sent to China and the Philippines fifteen times as many of these bogus missionaries as the number of Christian workers that have been sent to Japan in the past thirty years. Presumably the object will be to lead the Christian converts into Shintoism by stealth.

THE TREND TOWARD UNION

In the political realm the trend is toward world union in preparation for the world-wide rule of the Man of Sin, and in the religious realm there is a parallel movement toward the world-wide union of faiths that will appear under the False Prophet. Dr. Abel Jones, a British modernist minister, recently wrote: "It is said that members of the Eastern religions—Moslem and Hindu among them—are far more ready to join the World's Congress of Faiths than Christians are; that the latter stand aloof because they believe that Christ has given them the one final revelation. Let us frankly admit that while our religion is based partly on historical fact, it is based largely on fable and legend, on dialectic and imagination." Thus men, seeking to undermine faith in the Book that is given by inspiration of God, by their anti-Christian teaching pave the way for the Antichrist.

SERVICEMEN'S EDITION

January 13th issue of the Evangel will be a special servicemen's edition. A copy will be sent to every man whose name has been supplied to our Servicemen's Department. No subscription is needed. See your pastor and make sure that the name of your serviceman and all those from your church have been sent to the Servicemen's Department, Gospel Publishing House, Springfield, Missouri. Include full military address.

A HOLLYWOOD AUCTION

In a Hollywood Bowl Bond Sale an American soldier's helmet with a bullet hole through it was auctioned off. It brought \$10,000 in bonds. Then a case of Scotch whiskey was auctioned off—and it brought \$15,000.

IN GERMAN PRISONS

No religious services whatever may be conducted for either political or civil prisoners in German prisons—not even for those awaiting execution, *Religious News Service* reports. War prisoners, however, are not affected by the order.

BEATING THE CENSOR

Censors with the Near East forces will have to brush up on Biblical knowledge if they are not to be outwitted. One chaplain, writing home from that area, said he could not tell his home folk just where he was located, but he was not above quoting the comment of one of the soldiers: "I reckon Abraham was a wise man to get out of this place as soon as he could, even if he didn't know where he was going."

BIBLE HONORED IN ARKANSAS

The Bible must be read reverently each day, without any comment from the teacher whatever, in the public schools of Arkansas. When a preacher recently complained that a certain teacher was "repeatedly making slurring remarks to the children about believing the Bible," Attorney General Guy E. Williams stated that such a teacher is subject to prosecution under an initiated act of 1930. Any teacher guilty of making slurring remarks about the Bible, he said, may be fined \$25 and dismissed.

A PLACE FOR HIM TO PRAY

At an army post in New England there are three chaplains using the same chapel—a Roman Catholic, a Methodist, and a Congregationalist. The Congregational chaplain, writing in his bulletin, says:

"We all put our heads together seeking a place where the Pentecostal lad can pray alone and aloud of an evening, when every room of the chapel is already in use. We finally fixed him up with a chair and kneeling pad in the warm furnace room, from which his earnest voice echoes through the chapel for over an hour, as he lifts his soul to God in joyful communion."

Hallelujah! God still has His Daniels!

GERMANY'S "V" WEAPONS

War sets loose all the cruel cunning of man's wicked heart. The latest demonstration of this fact is mentioned in *Cavalcade* which lists seven of the frightful "V-for-vengeance" weapons on which Germany is basing her hopes for a compromise peace:

The V1 has already been used and has been largely nullified by capture of the launching sites in France and Belgium.

The V2 is the rocket bomb, and the V3 is the "America bomber" by which the Nazis threaten to bomb the United States.

Then there is V4 and V5, the atom bomb and the freezing bomb; and V6 and V7, the heavy gas bomb and the liquid fire bomb.

Let us pray that the war may end before such devilish devices can be put into operation.