

AWAKE!

POGROMS IN POLAND

Who is responsible for continued anti-Semitism in Poland?

Glad Nations Theocratic Assembly

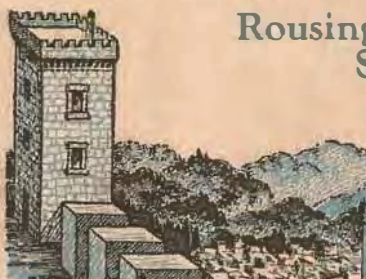
Representatives of many nations convene in unity and harmony

Counting Heartbeats

Ingenious devices record a thousand pulsations per minute

When the Remnant Awoke

Rousing call to awake grounded in
Scriptural injunctions



SEPTEMBER 22, 1946 SEMIMONTHLY

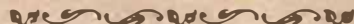
THE MISSION OF THIS JOURNAL

News sources that are able to keep you awake to the vital issues of our times must be unfettered by censorship and selfish interests. "Awake!" has no fetters. It recognizes facts, faces facts, is free to publish facts. It is not bound by political ambitions or obligations; it is unhampered by advertisers whose toes must not be tread upon; it is unprejudiced by traditional creeds. This journal keeps itself free that it may speak freely to you. But it does not abuse its freedom. It maintains integrity to truth.

"Awake!" uses the regular news channels, but is not dependent on them. Its own correspondents are on all continents, in scores of nations. From the four corners of the earth their uncensored, on-the-scenes reports come to you through these columns. This journal's viewpoint is not narrow, but is international. It is read in many nations, in many languages, by persons of all ages. Through its pages many fields of knowledge pass in review—government, commerce, religion, history, geography, science, social conditions, natural wonders—why, its coverage is as broad as the earth and as high as the heavens.

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

Get acquainted with "Awake!" Keep awake by reading "Awake!"



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AWAKE!

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

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POGROMS IN POLAND

FOR six long years millions of men fought, bled and died in a terrible world war. Presumably those men were fighting for the purpose of destroying forever the beastly forces that enslaved, persecuted and killed innocent men and women. By July 4, 1946, the memory of those war years had not died; and so it was a shock to the world to hear on that day that 41 Jews had been massacred in Poland, the very country where World War II began in 1939. Such an organized massacre of helpless Jews as that is called a *pogrom*, meaning "devastation".

Why such killings continue to plague the peace of the world is what thinking people would like to know. Why were such victims Jews? Why did not the officials of Poland prevent it? Why were these innocent Jews killed by a Catholic mob? Why did the Catholic bishops and cardinals not prevent it? Weighty questions, these, that press for an answer. But to arrive at a reasonable answer one must review the facts.

On the morning of July 4, at eight o'clock, angry men and women began to gather in front of the Jewish headquarters in the city of Kielce. By eleven o'clock a mob of several thousand had assembled with murder in their hearts. That afternoon, by three o'clock, they had broken into Jewish homes and stores and had beaten to death 41 persons, besides seriously wounding scores of others.

The fuse that set off this explosion of mob violence was a story of a nine-year-old boy who deliberately lied that he had been kidnaped, and held in the Jewish headquarters in Kielce for three days, and that while there he had seen the bodies of fifteen Gentile children whom he said the Jews had killed. Later he confessed that he actually was at the home of friends of his father in the neighboring village of Piekarki.

Another hoax was used by several men dressed in the uniform of the Polish army. They went to the door of the Jewish headquarters and promised to lead the Jews to safety through the mob. When they had the helpless Jews outside they turned them over to the crowd, who beat them to death in a most brutal manner.

This outrage did not occur on some 4th of July during the Dark Ages, but in the year 1946. It was not executed by Jew-hating Nazis, but by Nazi-persecuted Poles. It was not done by uncivilized cannibals, but by so-called "Christian" Catholics. But why?

At first glance it would appear that the riot was purely an anti-Semitic outbreak of race hatred. Careful observers, however, admit that there was more to it than that. While it is true that there was hatred of the Jews existing, yet the motive behind the riot that kindled the race hatred to the burning point was a sinister political one.

Prior to this outbreak of violence there

existed, and continues to exist, much political tension in Poland. Various political groups within the country war with one another to increase their power in the government. The referendum that was held on June 30 did not improve the situation either. In fact, some claim that the pogrom a few days later developed out of the dissatisfaction over the outcome of the referendum. It was coincidental, to say the least, that the pogrom occurred simultaneously with the preliminary announcement that the referendum calling for abolishment of the Senate had been won by the present government.

Political Causes of Pogroms

There are two general divisions of force in Poland: the Soviet-sponsored Warsaw government, which has Communistic leanings, and the London Polish government, which has the full support of the Hierarchy and Catholic interests in England and America.

These forces are poles apart in antagonism and are both powerful. The Warsaw government, of course, has the immediate power of the government, but the London Polish government brings much pressure to bear on the internal affairs through the Catholic hierarchy within the country, the guerrilla bands in the forests, and the Polish armed forces outside the country under the leadership of Generals Bor and Anders. Anders' forces are estimated to be 150,000 troops, and they stand as a coup d'état threat. The powerful Peasant party, which is Catholic under the leadership of Mikolajczyk, also agitates Poland's equilibrium.

With such internal stresses it is little wonder that following the wholesale massacre of Jews in July the various factions immediately pointed the finger of accusation at the other parties. First of all, why did not the government in power prevent it? Does it lack the power? Nationally, it probably has sufficient

power to prevent an overthrow of government, but locally it may be weak. This is gathered from the report of W. E. Lawrence in the *New York Times* of July 16, 1946:

It is the opinion of all neutral observers who have been in Kielce that the secret police and military did not act with normal speed or strength against the mob. It is pointed out that in a country where gunfire is normal rather than unusual in breaking up crowds, no shots were fired at the group that killed the Jews and that none of the mob was killed even after it had killed forty-one Jews and four Poles.

Local weakness of the present government is seen, too, in the fact that it was necessary for the government to arrest the local commanders and deputy commanders of the security police and "citizens militia". There seems, therefore, to be no point in the charge by the opponents of the present regime that it was government forces that plotted the pogrom, for such murderous riot only reflected the weakness of its law-enforcement agency.

The Underground Guerrillas of Poland were also blamed for the murderous assaults of July 4. These elements have mixed characteristics; some are anti-Semitic, some are anti-Communist, some are ultra-fascistic. All are opposed to the present government and are a law unto themselves. It is quite probable that some of the ringleaders of the pogrom mobsters were of these groups. It is also possible that they were the ones that engineered the massacre. However, it was not executed without support and backing from still another source of power.

And what is that sinister power? To say bluntly that the Roman Catholic Hierarchy is that sinister power is to invite an outcry of criticism from many people. Proof must first be offered to substantiate such an assertion. The leaders of the underground, says Stanley Pieza, staff correspondent of the *Chica-*

go *Herald-American*, are "peasants, former soldiers in the valorous Polish army, women of great courage, *Catholic Church officials*". More proof follows.

Pogroms originated in Russia in 1881, and for a number of years thereafter were identified with the cruel czarist rulership. Yet Russia is not the only country where such wickedness has flourished. Since the birth of the Polish nation pogroms have been identified as a part of its social standard. Nor was this blight on the Polish nation removed by the destruction of the anti-Semitic forces of Hitler that ruled Poland. A dispatch in the *New York Times* of July 17 said:

News of the pogrom at Kielce may have shocked the outside world. Inside Poland, so far as can be seen, there was hardly a ripple of surprise.

Anti-Semitism among Poles, according to foreign observers, is deep-rooted and intense, and some Poles themselves admit it. Several well-educated and presumably intelligent Poles have told this correspondent that at least Hitler was right about one thing—he wanted to kill all the Jews.

Hierarchy Responsibility for Killings

Remember this important fact in analyzing the causes of Polish pogroms: Poland is a Catholic country, 85 percent Catholic. For generations it has been under the influence of the clergy. Few countries today have a Catholic population as obedient and subservient to the Hierarchy as Poland. It is for this reason that a group of Jews pleaded with the head of the Catholic church in Poland, Cardinal Hlond, a few weeks before July's outrage asking him to issue a pastoral letter to the Catholic population denouncing anti-Semitism and thus stop the killing off of Jews.

And what was the response of the cardinal to the plea? Did he seize hold of the invitation to prevent the slaughtering of innocent men and women? Shocking as it may seem to honest Catholics,

Hlond did not lift so much as a finger to prevent it. The cardinal said that he thought "there were not sufficient factors to justify such a proclamation", in spite of the fact that on June 14 it was reported that there was a three-day pogrom in the city of Stettin. Yes, in spite of the fact that 1,000 Jews had been murdered at the hands of Poles since V-E day!

Finally, after 41 persons had been done to death and public indignation in this country and elsewhere was running high, and the number of accusing fingers pointing in the direction of the Roman Catholic Hierarchy had increased, the cardinal, to save his face, came forth with a feeble denunciation of these wanton murders. "I will now reconsider the appeal for such a proclamation," said Hlond, "but I must consult the bishops of Poland before doing it." Rather unusual, is it not, for a cardinal to "consult the bishops" before issuing a proclamation?

Cardinal Hlond's Proclamation

The wording of the proclamation is very interesting. Hlond used no adjectives stronger than "tragic" and "painful" in describing the terrible atrocities against humanity. It was only a "regrettable event". The insincerity of the cardinal's statement is noticed in the paragraph where, in referring to that gory day of July 4, he said that it was a "tragedy", not particularly because 41 men and women lost their lives, but rather, "because it took place before the eyes of youths and young children." One can almost see the glycerin artificial tears streaming down the cardinal's face as he wrote those words.

Cardinal Hlond said that the Kielce incident did not occur for racial reasons, but grew up on a totally different basis, that is, a political one. Explaining what he meant, Hlond said that it was "to a great degree due to the Jews who today occupy leading positions in Poland's

government and endeavor to introduce a governmental structure which the majority of the people do not desire".

The facts are that there were not more than five Jews in the government at the most. Some say there were only three. But that is not the point. What if there were Jews in the government that "endeavor to introduce a governmental structure which the majority of the people do not desire", is that reason or excuse to justify the killing off of innocent Jews, men, women and children, who are not of the government, just because they happen to be born Jews? Cardinal Hlond says "Yes"; but no honest Catholic will agree with him.

Turn the proposition around. Would there be any justification for killing off innocent Catholics in America because there are some Catholics in the government that are introducing policies foreign to the American Constitution? Why should not the Jewish minority in Poland have the same rights to hold governmental positions as the Catholic minority has in America?

Saul K. Padover, writing editorially in the New York newspaper *PM*, said:

As I see it, the implications of the cardinal's statement are twofold: first, that it is permissible to kill people with whose politics you disagree; and, second, that it is justifiable to murder others of the same minority with whose politics you disagree.

The Cardinal Is Rebuked

The Polish American Congress sided with the cardinal and said that the hideous pogrom was merely a "physical protest against foreign political provocateurs". Jewish organizations, however, took an altogether different viewpoint of the malicious murder of their brethren. An executive of the World Jewish Congress said that for Hlond "to invoke a disputed political situation as reasons for murder of innocent men, women and children is most certainly an act that runs counter to all rules of humanity

and religion". Continuing, the statement said: "As a result of his statement, Cardinal Hlond will find it difficult to free himself of co-responsibility for anti-Jewish acts that might follow in the future."

The chairman of the Interim Committee of the American Jewish Conference, which represents sixty-three national Jewish organizations, said in behalf of the conference: "To justify the murder of Jews by the allegation that Jews 'occupy the leading positions in Poland's government' is tantamount to absolving the murderers of their guilt and serves to undermine the earnest efforts of the Polish government to extirpate anti-Semitism."

In a telegram to President Truman the New York City chapter of the Methodist Federation of Social Service said that Hlond was merely repeating "the main propaganda line that brought the Hitler regime to power". Therefore, the telegram asked that Myron C. Taylor be recalled from the Vatican "in view of the political interference of the Vatican State in Poland in shielding pogromists and in blaming Jewish officials of a friendly government for murders instigated by others".

The American Jewish Committee in a letter to President Truman said that the "exposing to persecution and terror an entire group, because of the politics of some individuals acting entirely on their own, is contrary to all principles of humanity and religion". They asked, therefore, that Truman request the pope to interfere with the killing of Jews in Poland by Catholics. Rabbi Goldstein, president of the Synagogue Council of America, thought best to appeal directly to the pope by cablegram for help in behalf of Jewry of Poland.

But Pius XII was too busy to give much attention to this matter of killing Jews in Poland. He was busy offering up "his paternal prayer that his [Greiser's] life be spared". Greiser, it will be re-

called, was one of the worst war criminals that ruled Poland under the Nazis and he it was that fiendishly butchered many thousands of people.

Repercussions from the Public

Righteously disposed people were enraged over the revelation of the Hierarchy's attitude toward the pogroms in Poland, and some of them expressed themselves very forcefully in letters to the public press. A few of such letters were published. Excerpts from some of these written to the newspaper *PM* are as follows.

Cardinal Hlond's statement . . . is a calous attempt to throw responsibility for the massacre not upon the murderous but upon their victims. While he does not openly condone the pogrom, it is regrettable indeed that he should have felt the necessity of supplying justification for its perpetrators. His implication is that the fault lies with the Jews themselves—with the persecuted—instead of with those who persecute them.—ARNOLD HERRICK.

Jacob Schneider writes with sarcasm:

One must be grateful for Cardinal Hlond's statement. There has been no more forthright statement on the part of the Roman Catholic hierarchy as to where it has stood, in the last 25 years, with reference to oppression, persecution, and murder for political purposes.

Another writes:

To accuse a prince of the church of unwittingly acquiescing in his country's racial blindness is to invite harsh criticism from church people who think clergymen beyond a layman's views. But the fact still remains that 41 Jews were slaughtered in blind fury on the part of ignorant louts. . . . Forty-one dead bodies are 41 reasons why Cardinal Hlond should not have made his pronouncement, the way he did. If he is really anxious to put an end to his nation's rotten anti-Semitic record he should have directed all his fury as prelate toward his own huge parish. They are the killers. The Jews are merely the dead.

An ex-journalist said, in part:

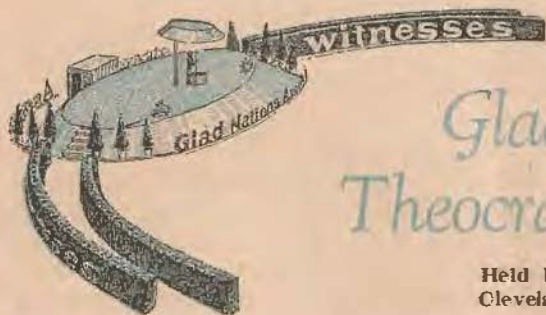
When men of God preach such doctrines of hatred, it is time for men of good will, of whatever religious or political beliefs, to cry out in the name of humanity against them.

Can Pogroms Be Prevented?

Following the slaughter of July 4 the Warsaw government of Poland made a vigorous effort to bring the perpetrators of the crime to justice. Twelve persons were rounded up and tried by a military court. Nine of them were sentenced to be hanged. This is said to be the first time in Poland's history where members of a pogrom mob were executed for their crimes.

But the hanging of nine beasts does not rectify the killing of forty-one intelligent humans. It does not make amends for "fatally beating a pregnant woman who gave birth prematurely to a dead child before she, herself, succumbed to injuries", as reported by the *New York Times*. Nor will the execution of such mobsters prevent future pogroms in Poland. This is evidenced by the fact that nine Jews were seized and held as hostages for the nine gangsters that were executed.

What, then, is the remedy? Is it for the Jews to flee Poland completely? Before the war there were 3,000,000 Jews in Poland. Now it is estimated that there are less than 160,000, and most of these would like to leave. It is true that if there were no Jews in Poland there would be no reported killings of them from that country, but that does not argue that peace would settle down over Poland. The removal of the Jews would not mean the removal of the cause of the persecution. The cause of the pogrom is deep-rooted in the internal political tension between the two great philosophies of Russia and the Vatican. Both clash over the issue of domination of Poland, and the Jews are caught in the middle of the struggle.



Glad Nations Theocratic Assembly

Held by Jehovah's witnesses
Cleveland, Ohio, August 4-11

WHAT nations are glad? What nations assemble Theocratically? Certainly the reference could not be to the 21 nations assembled at the Paris peace conference. It was not an occasion of gladness, but one fraught with suspicion and intrigue and selfish political maneuverings. Neither was it a Theocratic assembly of nations, for those 21 nations were intent on establishing a man-made world organization to rule, and ignored Theocracy or God rule. The factual answer is that glad representatives from many nations assembled at Cleveland, Ohio, August 4-11, in a convention devoted to the Theocratic Government of Jehovah God. Jehovah's witnesses from all corners of the earth converged on Cleveland for those eight days, and titled their joyful international gathering the "Glad Nations Theocratic Assembly". The brief report that follows will show the name true to the facts.

Delegates came from 31 countries, in addition to the United States. Airplanes and ocean vessels brought them to the North American continent. By plane, by rail, by bus and by private car, thousands upon thousands headed Cleveland way from all points of the continent. On August 2, 3 and 4 there were 38 special trains pulling into Cleveland, loaded down with Theocratic conventioners. Opening day, August 4, saw more than 50,000 in attendance at the sessions. The number mounted until it reached 67,000 on Saturday, August 10, and thence shot past the 80,000 mark for the

public lecture on Sunday afternoon, August 11.

The Assembly program, as it unfolded during the course of the eight days, revealed increasing gladness on the part of all the delegates from many nations. Meetings were conducted in 20 different languages, with the bulk of the sessions holding sway in the most widely used, the English tongue. One did not need to listen long to be impressed with the fact that this was a Theocratic assembly, an assembly where Jehovah God and His kingdom by Christ were singled out as all-important. Each of the eight convention days had its own particular theme, but each of the eight themes related to Jehovah's Theocracy and service in the interests thereof. High-lighting convention discourses were those presented by the president of the Watchtower Society, N. H. Knorr.

Notes of gladness struck their highest pitches when the numerous surprise releases of new publications were sprung on the assembled conventioners. How the thunderous applause burst from the vast audience and rolled out across the playing field embraced by the great horseshoe, double-decked Municipal Stadium! Not a day of the convention passed without some new release. Why, even before the Assembly convened in its program schedule there was the release on the grounds of a postcard picturing Municipal Auditorium and Stadium and announcing the Glad Nations Theocratic Assembly being held there!

Harvesters' Gladness Day

Opening day, August 4, was thus themed. Morning assembly for field service was followed by an afternoon session that saw Municipal Auditorium packed out, along with auxiliary halls, and many thousands overflowing out on to the Mall and surrounding grounds. Two discourses based on *Watchtower* articles were separated by the conducting of an hour-long model *Watchtower* study by demonstrators on the stage of the Auditorium. More than 50 participants seemed to transform the stage into a typical Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's witnesses, and only the portable microphone that picked up audience comments and the rustle of thousands of *Watchtower* pages as the study progressed kept one reminded that multitudes of conventioners were "sitting in" on the model meeting.

Gladness was heightened for the evening session by the Assembly's moving into the spacious Municipal Stadium, where all could be comfortably accommodated. The heart-warming address of welcome by Convention Chairman G. Suiter was followed by F. W. Franz' discourse on "The Harvest, the End of the World". This closing speech of the opening day lifted the "Harvesters' Gladness" theme to its highest pitch by a clear exposition on Jesus' parable of the wheat and tares. The full text of this talk was then released in the form of the *Watchtower* magazine, issue of August 15. It was the first release on the convention program. Coming on the opening day as it did, it sharpened to razor-edge expectancy and anticipation for releases that might follow as the remaining seven days of convention unfolded. But even expectancy and anticipation did not reach the heights of the reality to come.

"Defense of the Gospel" Day

August 5 was devoted to stirring up zeal to defend the gospel, and to supply-

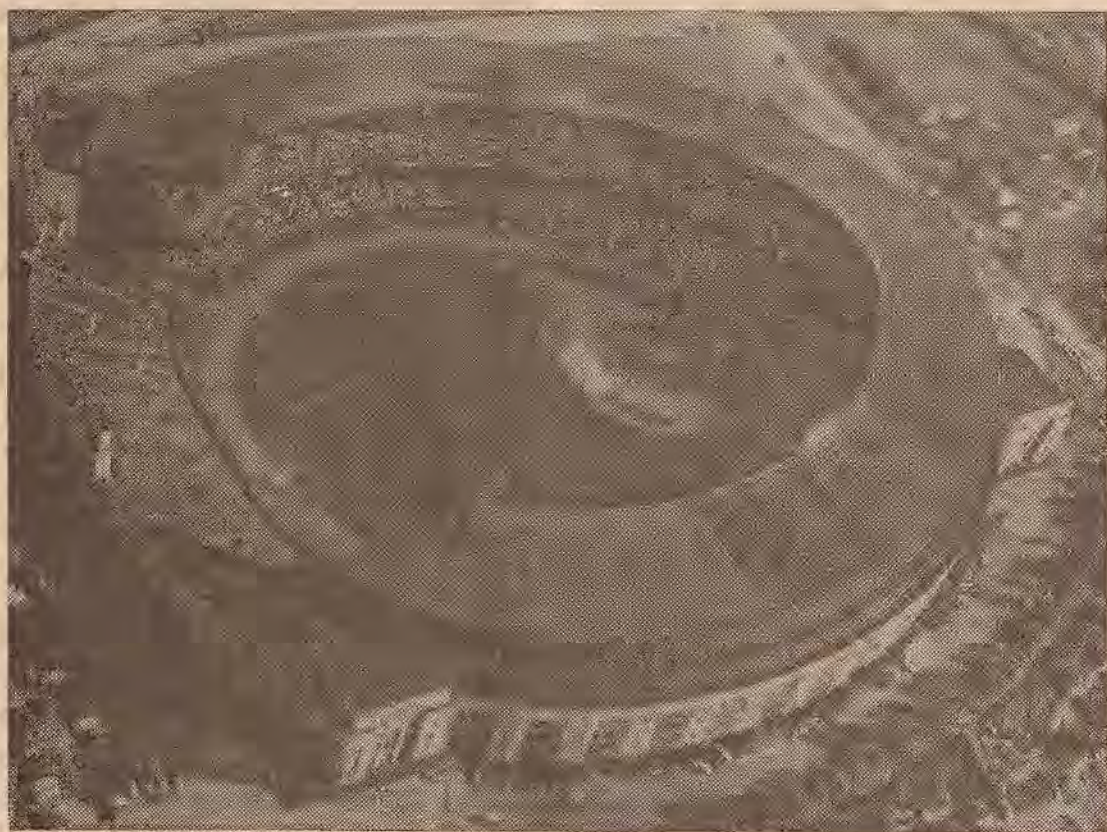
ing practical information and training toward that end. As the morning assembly for field service was conducted, delighted eyes feasted on the beautiful platform that the hands of witnesses had erected overnight. How brightly in the morning sun its harmoniously blended hues did shine out there on the playing field! The conventioners in general were soon dismissed for witness work among Cleveland's population, but remaining behind for further sessions were four foreign-language groups. It was the first series of the 19 meetings scheduled to be held in foreign tongues.

The afternoon session heard the Society's legal counsel, H. C. Covington, discourse for an hour on "Proper Conduct in Court". The important thing is to properly defend the gospel when in court, to give a witness or testimony concerning the Kingdom and the issues at stake. Let the granting of victory rest with Jehovah God. The speaker was succeeded before the microphone by the convention chairman. His topic was "The Messenger", and was climaxed by the announcement that the Society would publish its own convention newspaper, and that the first copy of this eight-page tabloid was off the press and ready and waiting for the witnesses right now! Five such eight-page issues were released during the Assembly, and to these issues eight additional pages were added at the close of the convention to total up to a 48-page complete report of the Glad Nations Assembly, entitled "The Messenger". This complete report is being mailed to all parts of the English-speaking world.

Release of the initial eight-page issue on "Defense of the Gospel" Day was appropriate. Why so? Well, the public press generally is given to distorting news to please private political and religious and commercial interests and opinion, and especially so does it do this relative to reporting the truth concerning Jehovah's witnesses. The magazine



Left: Chairman releases *Messenger*. Right: Conventioneers rejoice over it.



Aerial view of Stadium during Wednesday afternoon session

Time, for instance, glibly misrepresented the witnesses and the Assembly to please religious interests that apparently dictate policy for *Time*. If all the other articles in *Time* are as unfounded as this one, the magazine renders great disservice to the country. At any rate, the Society foresaw such misrepresentation, from long experience with the public press, and arranged to publish a complete report of its own that would honestly relate convention doings and that at the same time would serve as a defense against public press falsehoods. (A complete report on the Glad Nations Theocratic Assembly also appears in the *Watchtower* magazine of October 1, 1946.)

The evening session of the second day was given over to Theocratic ministry training. Once again a typical Kingdom Hall group of Jehovah's witnesses occupied the platform, this time to demonstrate the proper conducting of the weekly course in Theocratic ministry meeting. Both instruction talk and student talks set a fine standard for copying. This hour-long demonstration was given practical application in field witnessing by the series of seven demonstrations by couples, in each case one acting as a witness at the door and the other posing

as householder. Objections of householders were ably refuted by the witnesses, who made tactful use of information gained at the Theocratic ministry study.

"Good Courage" Day

After morning sessions that followed the general pattern of August 5, the afternoon session of August 6 heard the sounding of the Assembly keynote by the Society's president, N. H. Knorr. It was the first scheduled appearance of the president on the program, and enthusiastic conventioners cheered lustily to indicate full approval of the keynote message "Fearless Against the World Conspiracy". More than 55,000 closely attended this discussion based on the eighth chapter of Isaiah's prophecy, wherein is foretold the vain efforts of men and nations to combine in a world union for strength. The spirited declarations that Jehovah's witnesses would not be stampeded into following the crowds in trusting in any such world confederacies, but that they would stand fearlessly against this world conspiracy that is actually pitted against God's kingdom, drew thunderous applause from the assembled thousands.

The keynote address made a resound-



Two of the pairs of demonstrators that gave practical illustrations of putting Theocratic ministry training to use in field service



N. H. Knorr releases *Awake!*

ing lit with the Assembly, but it hardly matched the thrills that raced through the vast audience at the subsequent evening session. A half hour of singing and experience-relating soon passed, to make way for the energetic delivery of the discourse "Awake!" This call for alertness as to world happenings was backed up by the "Twenty Minutes of News Items" that followed. But "An Answer to the Rousing Call" came in fullness when N. H. Knorr stepped to the microphone to deliver the extemporaneous speech that was so named. The apex of thrills came when the president held aloft the new magazine *Awake!* As realization of what was being released dawned fully upon the excited throngs the increasing applause swelled to thunderous volume. A glad Assembly! Overflowingly so!

Servants' Deportment Day

Wednesday morning, August 7, varied from the other forenoon sessions by substituting experiences and three half-hour discourses in English for the usual morning field service program and foreign-language meetings. These talks set the pace for a day dedicated to matters of field service, all being on the full-time Kingdom work of pioneering. The afternoon session brought to the convention's notice publishers and experiences from different parts of the earth.

But the deportment of Jehovah's servants came into sharper focus during the evening meeting. It was the time set aside for a demonstration of a model weekly service meeting of Jehovah's witnesses. The speakers' platform was very thoroughly converted into a Kingdom Hall setting. Up front of the some threescore chairs for the witnesses playing the role of audience was a piano and the Company Chart showing the group's activity in field witnessing. On the side was the company's Theocratic library, and to the rear were such essential departments as bookroom, territory, back-call, and other local organizational arrangements for the efficient conducting of the witness work. It was into this realistic setting that early arrivals began coming about a half hour before the scheduled time for service meeting to start. Singly and by two's and three's newcomers swelled the audience till its full numbers were present. A strong ripple of appreciative laughter swept through the observing audience of thousands in the Stadium as they noted two latecomers make a last-minute rush to join the small Kingdom Hall audience on the platform. Even this gave a familiar touch of reality. Certainly the hour service meeting that followed was a good model for all companies to aim at.

Striking the finale on "Servants' Deportment Day", the Society's president gave excellent Scriptural admonition to the conventioners regarding proper de-



Delighted witnesses display their gift copies of the new magazine *Awake!*

portment for the Christian. In a powerful presentation that minced no words the speaker clearly showed the sharp, clean-cut distinction there must be between the Christian and this unclean old world. The necessity of "Keeping Unspotted from the World" (the title of the talk) was established on solid Bible foundation, the texts at James 1:26, 27 and 4:4 being particularly stressed.

Publishers' Equipment Day

The morning program for August 8 reverted back to the general outlines for the mornings of August 5 and 6, namely, a field service assembly and four meetings in foreign languages. The afternoon session held a grand surprise in store. Two discourses on "Laying Up Sound Wisdom" and "Religion versus Sound Wisdom", dealing with the history of the writing of the Bible and the centuries-old opposition of religion to the Bible, led up and into the third programmed discourse, "Equipped for Every Good Work." This final talk of the session was presented by N. H. Knorr, and steadily mounted in its argument toward the afternoon's surprise release of a new

book entitled "Equipped for Every Good Work". Therein is contained information on the Bible, its contents and history, the time and place of each Bible book's writing, and whom God used to pen the various books. The announcement dropped like a bombshell into the Assembly's midst, and the bursting applause, shouts and whistlings seemed to fairly rock Municipal Stadium. Gladness had hit a new high.

Nor did it subside for the evening session, for then, after two preliminary half-hour discourses, the president again addressed the convention, this time on "The Problems of Reconstruction and Expansion". Happy indeed were Jehovah's witnesses to hear at that time how their voluntary contributions to the Society had been expended in reconstructing and expanding the Kingdom work through Branch organizations worldwide. Announcement that the headquarters Bethel home and factory must soon be enlarged to keep pace with the increasing work delighted all these scores of thousands interested in Jehovah's kingdom service.

"All Nations" Day

Friday, August 9, was strikingly different from the other seven convention days. First to distinguish it was an early morning discourse on water baptism, then a moving of many hundreds of candidates for immersion to Edgewater Park on Lake Erie. For upward of four hours complete submersion of the candidates in the waters of Lake Erie continued, till 903 men and 1,699 women, a total of 2,602, had thus symbolized their consecration to do Jehovah's will. Newsreels in theaters throughout the nation brought this immersion service into wide public notice. But back in the Municipal Stadium the day's program was under way. It was titled "The Gladness of the Nations with His People", and continued over from the morning session into the afternoon and evening sessions. In all, the conventioners heard the Society's representatives from 31 different countries give ten-minute reports on the Kingdom work in their respective lands. The cumulative force and power of the day's program steadily gained momentum, till at the close of the thirty-first speaker's review the international scope of the Glad Nations Assembly was indelibly impressed on every attentive mind.

Capping the events of the day came a surprise appearance of N. H. Knorr during the evening session, and his making of several delightful announcements that gave cause for further gladness. Outstanding at this time was his announcement of the release of a new Spanish Bible concordance, published by the Watchtower Society to better equip Kingdom publishers working among Spanish-speaking peoples.

God's Truthfulness Day

Saturday morning passes, with its assembly for field service and last of the series of foreign-language meetings, and we find ourselves once more looking in on an afternoon session of the Glad Na-

tions convention of witnesses. By now attendance has climbed to 67,009, and all sit with unusual expectancy as the principal speaker of the afternoon takes up the position before the microphone for his presentation of "Let God Prove to Be True". Already the attending thousands have been overjoyed by release of a new *Watchtower*, four issues of *The Messenger*, the new magazine *Awake!* the new 384-page book "*Equipped for Every Good Work*", and the new Spanish concordance. Nevertheless, they remain expectant as the convention rolls through its seventh day. That expectancy met a more than full satisfaction when the speaker, N. H. Knorr, released the second bound book of the Assembly, "*Let God Be True*". In its 320 pages can be found 24 chapters treating all the basic doctrines of the Bible. In these matters it established God's truthfulness, despite the contradicting traditions and creeds of organized religion. This new book turns the full brilliance of the Bible spotlight of truth on these vital and fundamental beliefs and exposes the heathenishness of religion's fables. What a boon "*Let God Be True*" will be in gathering out religious stones of stumbling that still clutter the peoples' pathway to clear Bible knowledge and life under Christ's kingdom rule!

The evening session held interest through its three-part symposium on "Prisoners of the Lord". It struck hard at the injustice heaped upon many young male ministers of Jehovah who had suffered federal imprisonment without the right to enter a defense in their behalf at time of court trial. Some 4,000 of Jehovah's witnesses have been wrongly sentenced to a total of 12,000 years' penal servitude, because they would not abandon their covenant obligations to serve Jehovah God. Moreover, courts of the land denied these ministers the right to defense in such courts. Relation of these facts roused the righteous indignation of the conventioners, and the au-



Municipal Stadium during the Saturday afternoon session

dience was in a very receptive frame of mind for the resolution appealing for presidential clemency. The Assembly adopted unanimously the resolution calling for an appeal to President Truman to grant full pardon to the unjustly imprisoned 4,000 ministers and restore to them their civil rights. The session was ended by the instructive discourse "Children in the 'Time of the End'", which discourse appears in the September 15 issue of *The Watchtower*.

Universal Peace Day

The eighth day, the final day of the Glad Nations Assembly, had arrived. No assembly for field service on this morning, for the entire day's program was given over to discourses. Six, delivered by representatives from Canada, Cuba, Finland, Hawaii, Mexico and Australia, caused the morning to pass profitably,

and left more than three hours' intermission before the widely advertised public lecture, "The Prince of Peace."

Prior to the delivery of this discourse by the Society's president, the waiting thousands seated early in the stands were regaled by beautiful music supplied by the convention orchestra. By this closing day the orchestra had grown to 160 instrumentalists, and now their special arrangements of Kingdom service songs flowed out over the loud-speakers to thoroughly and completely delight the listeners. At three o'clock N. H. Knorr started delivering the public lecture, to more than 75,000 persons. Latecomers still poured into the mammoth Stadium, necessitating for the first time during the Assembly use of the bleacher section that ties together the ends of the huge double-decked, horse-shoe-shaped covered sections of seats.

Attendance exceeded 80,000 on this occasion. They heard declared in no uncertain terms that peace will not come by any world federation of nations, but that only through Jehovah's appointed "Prince of Peace", Christ Jesus, would lasting peace clothe this earth. A thorough Scripture argument proved that such hopes in Christ's kingdom were not wishful thinking. At the conclusion the fifth issue of *The Messenger* was released and a free copy presented to all in attendance. It contained the full text of the public lecture just heard, namely, "The Prince of Peace."

The Assembly may have passed its climax by evening-session time, but nonetheless it was fittingly capped by the closing report by Convention Servant C. R. Hessler and the "Farewell Admonition" given by N. H. Knorr. Out-

standing was President Knorr's disclosure of a series of conventions in many nations during 1947. And the information that the 1947 convention in the United States would be held somewhere in California touched off one of the greatest bursts of applause of the entire eight-day Assembly!

Conclusion

This report has only touched on the high lights of the convention program. Lack of space forbids extended discussion of the discourses or other convention activities. However, the smooth-running organization of Jehovah's witnesses' assemblies never fails to excite much comment from outsiders. The unity and smoothness of operation is due to Jehovah's spirit upon the many departments. Rooming department secured ac-



Aerial view of part of the two-mile-long trailer camp

commodations for over 40,000 delegates. The trailer camp, over two miles long, became a city of more than 20,000. Cafeteria fed tens of thousands daily. More than a score of other departments insured orderly handling of the crowds and supplying of all the conventioners' needs. They were staffed by some 15,000 volunteer workers. Typical of comment on the orderliness of Jehovah's witnesses in convention assembled is the following

statement, reportedly made by the Cleveland Auditorium and Stadium commissioner:

During the Watchtower convention we had assigned 24 uniformed guards to the Exposition Halls and Stadium, but found they had very little work, and were really more than were needed. Next week we have another convention in preparation, for which we have reserved 500 uniformed police guards—and that won't be enough.

Sea Wolves

THE submarine is purely an instrument of warfare with no practical peacetime utility. From the time of Robert Fulton's "Nautilus" to the present the many changes in its design have been made for the purpose of increasing its range and killing power, while at the same time attaining greater safety for itself. As an instrument of war it has demonstrated its death-dealing power during two world wars.

The first kill of World War II by American submarines was on December 15, 1941; the last was listed on August 14, 1945. During that time U. S. submarines sank 1,944 Japanese vessels of all types, 194 of which were warships, with the consequential drowning of 276,000 persons. American submarine losses in obtaining this score were 3,505 officers and men, and 52 submarines, seven of which were victims of operational accidents. Such figures show conclusively that submarines are weapons of offensive warfare as well as defensive.

In reporting the Navy's statement and apology on submarine warfare the New York Times mentioned:

(1) An official admission by the Navy that the United States had violated the London

Naval Treaty of 1930 in ordering unrestricted submarine warfare against Japan.

(2) A declaration that we "went the Germans one better" in developing "wolf-pack tactics". . . .

In its resume of submarine operations, the Navy admitted that "we were bound by the London Naval Treaty of 1930" not to attack anything "but an unmistakable man of war". In the Pacific, however, it would have been "impossible" to distinguish between Japanese merchantmen and naval auxiliaries, the Navy report said.

Naval authorities, filled with enthusiasm over their recent successes, are inclined to think that future "capital ships" will be large submarines capable of remaining below the surface for long periods of time, there discharging atomic missiles and guiding them to distant targets by remote control. The prospects of extensively utilizing not only atomic energy but the new developments in jet propulsion, radar and sonar have made the future of the submarine look very bright from the militarist's narrow viewpoint. Viewed, however, from the vantage point of the Bible the future of these killers of the sea will be as short-lived as earth's mortal war lords.

*"He maketh wars to cease unto the end of the earth; he breaketh the bow, and cutteth the spear in sunder; he burneth the chariot in the fire.
Be still, and know that I am God."—Psalm 46: 9, 10.*

Precision-made Ball Bearings



THIS is a fast machine age that literally rolls on bearings. In time of war men of science of one nation try to outstrip the technicians of other nations in perfecting

engines of war, and in so doing they give particular attention to the bearings they put in them. They know that efficiency increases if friction is reduced. In time of peace, engineers and designers likewise give special attention to bearings.

As a practical example of what anti-friction or ball bearings mean, Mr. Wollmar, member of the Society of Automotive Engineers, cited their brilliant performance on the railroads. "It has been found that ten engines equipped with these bearings can perform the work for which thirty-five were required formerly, while in many instances speed has been doubled. We have reports of freight cars' being hauled from Los Angeles to Chicago in forty-two hours."

Ultra-precision methods of manufacture developed in the last few years have made it possible to attain extreme accuracy in fittings. In fact, the tolerance of some is so close that an oil-mist spray is employed as the lubricant. Liquid oil, if used in these types, would be so thick and gummy it would clog the moving parts.

To produce bearings of such accuracy great care is exercised from the selection of the raw material right through to the final polishing. The raw material is a cold-drawn steel alloy usually containing 1 percent carbon, 1.5 percent chrome and .3 percent manganese. It must be able to withstand 300,000 pounds of pressure to the square inch.

The final stage of production is that of polishing the surface of the balls to

a tolerance smoothness of one-millionth of an inch. Their roundness has a tolerance of 1/100000 of an inch. This is accomplished by holding the balls between two grooved plates of cast iron for twenty hours. The upper plate is stationary while the lower rotates against it. Slow speed and low pressure are employed in this lapping process.

Ball bearings like these which approach the mark of perfection are finding an ever-increasing use in machinery of every type. There are today more than 7,000 unit sizes with bearing rings or holders from less than one-half inch up to fifty-two inches in diameter. Besides these standard sizes there are many others.

The latest is a bearing made up of three tiny steel balls each the size of a pinhead. Although 111,000 of them weigh only a pound, yet they have an accuracy of 1/25000000 of an inch. So far they have been used only in very delicate recording instruments, such as television and radar equipment, but watchmakers are already thinking of using them in place of jewels in watches. They would never crack and would last a lifetime without oiling. Having reached this attainment, research is now looking forward to making balls of the same accuracy, but having a diameter of only 1/64 of an inch.

To emphasize the great care that must be taken to make such flawless bearings, Mr. Wollmar said: "The methods employed are so delicately accurate that the lacquer on the fingernails of a woman inspector, or powder on her nose, or a one-degree change in temperature is guarded against lest it ruin weeks of work by defacing surfaces."

A wag is heard to remark how strange it is that hardened steel balls, like strong men, can be so easily affected by painted nails and powdered noses of women. Evidently both are "precision-made".

Judaism versus Moses and the Prophets

JUDAISM purports to be the way to serve God, the way taught by Moses and the prophets sent by the Lord to Israel long centuries ago. Actually, Judaism is as much a hollow shell of true worship of God as is the "Christian religion" of this twentieth century. A voice from Jewish ranks raises this very denouncement of the present ritualistic Jews' religion. It appears in a write-up in the weekly *California Jewish Voice* by Dr. Louis G. Reynolds. The writer is somewhat confused in his terminology, referring to the one-time true worship of God by obedience to the Law and prophets as the Jewish "religion", whereas actually that true worship was not a "religion" at all. The article follows:

JUDAISM

The Jewish religion or Judaism has undergone many changes since the days of Moses and the Prophets. Its official guardians, like the guardians of the various Christian sects, have submitted it to a severe and radical process of cancellation until today it has become what Isaiah so long ago predicted: 'Precept upon precept, line upon line, here a little and there a little.' With many of the so-called top-Jews it has ceased to be even that. With them it has become a sort of a pale, indefinite and incorporeal fiction, which expresses itself in costly temples and high-society functions.

It is interesting to note, at least from a psychological and linguistic point of view, that nowhere in biblical literature can one find a collective name for the spiritual and social code, which is the essence of the Jewish religion. The only word which may be thus interpreted is "Torah", which is currently translated as "Law". Actually it is derived from the Hebrew verb "Yoro", which means to hit at the target, i.e., something that has or must have a practical and useful aim. The word "Yahaduth" or Judaism is of much later origin and occurs for the first time, if my memory serves me right, in Midrash Esther,

which, according to many authorities, was written as late as the Babylonian exile.

Be that as it may, it is certain that already during the heyday period of the Palestinian Jewish commonwealth the Mosaic code as well as the prophetic preachments had begun to undergo a serious process of deliberate substitution. One is astounded to find that all the kings and the entire upper class of Israel and with only two possible exceptions, also those of Judaea, had thrown off Judaism with the utmost indifference—one may say with the utmost contempt—and turned to the idolatry against which Moses and the prophets had so strenuously warned them. None of their fiery warnings did any good, not even their threats of a divine punitive visitation. Even after the heroic Maccabean revolt against the heathen cults it was only the ritualistic and ceremonial items of the Jewish religion that were restored: the political, social and economic laws remained a dead letter. Thus we see how the touch of the ruling classes will vitiate and corrupt and even completely suppress the finest and noblest ideologies. In this respect the Jews do not differ from the Christians. Their respective aristocracies or ruling classes not only dislike, but actually abhor an idealistic religion. They are willing, of course, to accept and worship a God. As a matter of fact they sorely need Him, but He must be a God who believes in reaction, in exploitation, in free enterprise and in the profit system.

Thus we see before us the sad spectacle of how the unnamed religion of Moses and the Prophets was and is being split up and disintegrated under the impact of men who 'call evil good and good evil, who put darkness for light and light for darkness, who put bitter for sweet and sweet for bitter'. (Isaiah 5: 20) Out of the wedlock between the Jewish clergy and the Jewish industrialists and merchants a child was born and they called it Judaism. The word is freely mouthed in Jewish high-society circles. It suggests some relationship with biblical ideals, but when you

look for them they are as hard to find as are the ideals of Jesus in the Christian churches. The various Jewish sects do not materially differ from one another, despite all their claims to the contrary. They differ only in unimportant and unessential features. The orthodox insist upon an outworn and petrified ceremonialism and upon the minutiae of ritualistic observances. The so-called conservatives or middle-of-the-roaders want the preservation of only a limited and modified number of the same, while Reform Jews represent the great party of total cancellation. Their Judaism is a non-existent ghost, a sort of huge spiritual zero, full of pomp and adulation of the propertied Jewish classes.

In the presence of all this spiritual pettifoggery and all these pretentiously stentorian claims, the real student of the Jewish religion vainly asks: What has become of Moses and the thundering prophets? Where can one find that ensemble of laws, which minutely dealt with every phase of pulsating and throbbing human life? Moses and the prophets laid no great stress upon empty ceremonialism, although they fully realized the importance of the external visible symbols of the inward and invisible effervescences of the human soul. The 58th chapter of the book of Isaiah bears testimony to this fact. The visions of

Ezekiel, of Micah, of Amos and all the other prophets dwell insistently and with unabated vigor upon the Mosaic claim that social justice and political and economic righteousness are the key to the Jewish religion.

The best definition of this kind of religion is given by the prophet Micah in the 6th verse of the 6th chapter of his book, where he says: 'He hath shown thee, O man, what the Lord doth require of thee, to practice justice, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God.' The concept of humility as propounded in the last few words is a pungent reproof of the kings, aristocracies and the so-called captains of industry concerning their false and pretentious claims of belonging to a class of "betters".

Judaism, Judaism, we constantly hear our "betters" mouth. The Soviet Union, they whine, is destroying Judaism. I wonder what Judaism they are talking about. It certainly cannot be that pale, indefinite spiritual hash, which they dish out in their fanes and at their brotherhood and sisterhood meetings. This constantly refrigerated fare bears no resemblance to the burning periods of our prophets and sages. According to them justice, mercy, square dealing and love of one's neighbor are the core and kernel of the Jewish religion.



Inebriates, Four- and Two-legged

THE marna tree of Natal has a fruit that, when it is in a certain condition, makes elephants tipsy; and, curious to relate, the elephants like it. Also, Natal is a sugar-growing country, and when the bushbucks visit the places where the lees and waste molasses are dumped, and linger too long, they also get tipsy, and lurch and stagger around, and paw at their own shadows, and are quite incapable of any acts of offense or defense. And, last but not least, monkeys also get tipsy, and the natives catch them by exposing home-brewed liquors. It seems that if once the monkeys get drunk, they are, after that, almost as foolish as certain other two-legged creatures that have done the same thing. The monkeys that get tipsy can get along fairly well with their front paws, but they seem to have no more control over their hind legs than does some poor sot who has been given the bum's rush out of a barroom where he has left his money, his good name and his common sense.



COUNTING



HEARTBEATS



ALL being born in sin and shapen in iniquity, the nearest any of us in this world get to perfection in tissue is in our infancy. From the cradle to the grave we walk down a path of disintegration and finally, when our heart stops beating, death begins its reign. And by counting our heartbeats we can tell how far along this shadowy path we are. The infant's heart beats from 110 to 140 times a minute; in early childhood the rate is 100 to 110; the youth's heart throbs from 80 to 90 times a minute; in middle age the normal beat is 70 to 75 times; and as old age creeps in the heart sluggishly pumps only about 60 times a minute.

These counts are normal averages and either physical or mental exertion and excitement will speed up the beat. Also diseases of the heart will either slow it down or speed it up. The heart disease known as *paroxysmal tachycardia* causes the heart to beat between 150 and 200 times a minute. But such rapid beating tears the heart down and does not permit it to have its normal rest which is very necessary. Ordinarily the heart gets as much rest as the other parts of the body. If the periods of time between beats were added up they would total between 8 and 9 hours out of the 24, or about the same amount of rest as the body gets. During these rest periods the heart is nourished and strengthened.

Among the animal creation the heart-beat varies quite a bit from that of humans. For example, the horse's heart beats only about half as fast as man's,

only 28 to 40 beats per minute. A frog's heart ticks only some 20 times a minute, whereas the flighty mouse's heart sets a pace of from 500 to 1,000 beats a minute. The heartbeats of birds have also been timed, and it has been learned that the smaller the bird is the faster its heart pumps. The mourning dove's heartbeat is

normally 135, while the ruby-throated hummingbird has a normal beat of 615.

The thoughts of the mind have a great effect on the rate at which the heart beats. Emotions of love, hate, joy, sorrow and fear make the heart of men either speed up or slow down, and physical activity and exertion will also cause the heart to work more rapidly. The same is true of other animals. Excitement or exertion will cause the heartbeats of birds to be greatly accelerated. The peaceful dove with a normal heartbeat of 135, if excited, has a rate of 570. The heart of the cardinal increases from a basal rate of 445 to 810; the English sparrow's, from 350 to 902; and the chipping sparrow's heartbeat may jump from a normal of 440 to a maximum of 1,060 when excited.

Counting 1,000 Beats per Minute

All of this is very interesting, but naturally the question arises as to how such rapid heartbeats are counted with any degree of accuracy. With us slow-hearted creatures it is an easy matter to count the normal pulse-beat. And when accuracy is wanted to a high degree we have the electrocardiograph to give us a picture of the human heartbeat with all its irregularities. Such instrument is based on the work of Einthoven of Leyden. In 1903 he invented what was called a string galvanometer capable of detecting currents of electricity as small as one sixty-thousandth of one millionth of an ampere, which is the same as one sixty-billionth of an ampere. Currents as small

as that are generated by the heart in its beat, and the electrocardiograph is capable of recording them on a graph.

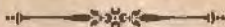
However, to measure these currents it is necessary to attach the wrists and ankles of the individual to the instrument. This would, therefore, make the electrocardiograph wholly unsatisfactory for clocking the heartbeat of birds, since the attachment of any such instrument to the physical organism of temperamental birds would immediately raise the rate of their heartbeat.

Dr. Eugene P. Odum, of the University of Georgia, has devised an instrument of extreme electrical sensitivity known as a cardiobrometer. The great advantage of this device is that nothing has to be attached to the birds in order to count their very rapid heartbeats. It is simply attached to the twig upon which the bird is perched, or it is placed under the nest, and in such position it is capable of picking up and recording the ever-so-slight beating of the heart. These

vibrations are translated into electrical currents and are then amplified to a degree strong enough to be measured and recorded by an automatic pen on a graph.

Another interesting thing that Dr. Odum learned in studying the heartbeat of birds is that naked young birds when first hatched are like cold-blooded lizards and frogs. Their heartbeat from the time of hatching changes directly with the rise and fall in temperature in the same manner as a frog's heartbeat. But as birds grow older they assume the characteristics of warm-blooded animals, and as such the temperature has the exact opposite effect that it has on frogs, i.e., the higher the temperature the slower the beat, and the lower the temperature the faster the heartbeat.

When considering these facts about the heartbeat we are not so impressed with the mechanics involved in actually counting the beats as we are with the marvels of the heart itself.



Catholic Convent Hides Mussolini's Body



MILAN, Aug. 13 (UP).—The body of Benito Mussolini, unearthed from its pauper's grave here on April 22 by Fascist fanatics, was recovered last night from the Certosa convent at Pavia, 25 miles south of Milan, police reported early today. Officials apparently got their clue to the body's whereabouts from Antonio Parozzi, a 20-year-old Fascist, who confessed last week that he and four others stole the corpse from its first resting place.

Police said they would hold the body in Milan until instructions were received from government officials in Rome. It was brought to police headquarters in a reinforced trunk covered with two waterproof sacks. Attached to the makeshift coffin was a note signed "Marco", which said the body had been buried twice since the first exhumation in Milan. "Marco" was identified as Domenico Leccisi, self-proclaimed founder of the Democratic Fascist party, who was arrested several weeks ago.

The Milan police chief said he believed the body had been hidden for a long time in the Angelicum convent at Milan headed by Father Enrico Zucca, who was arrested yesterday. Father Lamberto, director of the Certosa convent, said he received the body Monday for "temporary custody". He said the corpse was delivered to him by Father Alberto Parini, of the Angelicum convent.

The police chief said the text of the note and depositions taken from three of the men who confessed the original grave robbery indicated that Fathers Parini and Zucca were responsible for hiding the body since May 7. He said the two monks would be turned over to government prosecutors, along with Parozzi and Leccisi and Fausto Gasperini, another of the confessed grave robbers.

"I Will Curse Your Blessings"



WHAT did the great Creator Jehovah God mean when He said through the prophet Malachi (2:1, 2, *Am. Stan. Ver.*), "And now, O ye priests, this commandment is for you. If ye will not hear, and if ye will not lay it to heart, to give glory unto my name, saith Jehovah of hosts, then will I send the curse upon you, and I will curse your blessings; yea, I have cursed them already, because ye do not lay it to heart"? He meant just what He said.

One method used by the pope to bestow blessings upon rulers is to give them a golden rose. He gave one to the king of the Two Sicilies and in less than a year that ruler lost his crown and his kingdom. He gave one to Queen Isabella of Spain and she lost her crown and died in exile. He gave one to Empress Eugenie of France and in less than a year both the emperor and the empress lost their crowns, and both died in exile. He gave one to the empress of Austria. She was murdered in Switzerland, after her only son had committed suicide. Subsequently, her nephew lost the throne. He gave one to the queen of Belgium and she was killed in a motor accident. He gave one to Queen Ena of Spain, and she, with her husband, King Alfonso, lost their throne and both fled for their lives.

It is not necessary for the pope to give the golden rose for his blessings to be turned into a curse. Thus, he blessed the empress of Brazil; she broke her leg three days thereafter and subsequently she and the emperor were dethroned and died in exile. He blessed the crown princess of Brazil; her baby was born deformed and she died in exile. He blessed Maximilian and he was dethroned and killed. He blessed Maximilian's widow and the poor creature became a hopeless idiot and died in exile. He blessed a steamerload of nuns sailing to South

America and the ship ran into a storm and was lost with all on board. He blessed the floating palace from Montevideo to Buenos Aires, and it foundered in 48 hours. He blessed the conceited General Boulanger and in less than two weeks that miserable wretch was an exile and subsequently died a creature of his own depraved appetite. He blessed the grand Charity Bazaar in Paris; in five minutes thereafter it burst into flames and 150 of the French aristocracy perished. He blessed Queen Natalie of Serbia and she died a fugitive in exile. He blessed the queen of Portugal; her husband and eldest son were murdered by her side and she became an exile. He blessed Kaiser Wilhelm and that gentleman lost everything and died in exile. He blessed the airship Italia, intended to be the first such ship to visit the north pole, but it broke in half and a half of the crew was lost. He blessed Al Smith and Al lost the presidency; and he blessed Winston Churchill and Churchill lost his job as prime minister. He blessed the United States navy and in less than a year the American president was insisting that the navy be folded up and be made a part of the one Bureau of Defense which it is purposed shall do all the fighting and the planning therefor that it may yet be considered expedient to do.

The pope "blessed" the late President Roosevelt and prayed "especially for his health", and a few days thereafter Roosevelt died.

Last but not least, in the Dayton, Ohio, *Herald* is a picture of the present pope, not in his closet with his eyes shut, but out in front with his eyes wide open, in front of the camera, praying for the welfare of the world. This was something that Jesus was not willing to do. (John 17:13-16) But then it must be remembered that Jesus was a carpenter from Nazareth, not a vicar in Rome!

"THY WORD IS TRUTH"



When the Remnant Awoke

AWAKE! stems from the magazine *The Golden Age*, which began to be published A.D. 1919. It was part of a movement to awake on the part of the remnant of God's faithful people after the close of World War I, and was foreseen by Jehovah's prophet Ezekiel. In vision Ezekiel saw a great valley of dry bones, and Jehovah put to him the question: "Son of man, can these bones live?" (Ezekiel 37: 3) That same question he put into the mind of his consecrated people during their restrained, inactive condition amid World War I. Even after the war ended and the war prisoners were let out of cells, the question was put by the Lord God to His remnant of witnesses: "Are you going to remain as a dead and disorganized company, or will you get busy and show signs of life in my witness work?" This question emphasizes the miracle that Jehovah was about to perform.

Ezekiel manifested no stubborn unbelief or doubt about what God could do, but trusting Him he said: "O Lord God, thou knowest." In September, 1919, a large company of Jehovah's witnesses assembled in convention at Cedar Point, Ohio, and the question was: Will the work be revived? Those trusting in God did not say, It can't be done. The faithful and zealous were ready for action, the more so after Jehovah God emphasized at this convention that the work of His church done down till then had been foreshadowed by the prophet Elijah's work and was now dead and that his successor Elisha foreshadowed a work

thenceforth to be done. So now hope began to revive.

Ezekiel was called into action as Jehovah directed what he should do. "Again he said unto me, Prophesy upon these bones, and say unto them, O ye dry bones, hear the word of the Lord." (37: 4) Like Ezekiel, Jehovah's witnesses fulfilled this part of the prophecy by preaching to each other from and after 1919. A great deal of it was required to drum it into the minds of God's consecrated ones that they must organize for service and carry forward the work as foreshadowed by Elisha. Those who really trusted in the Lord God and who loved Him did hear and obey His admonitions to get busy. "Zion heard, and was glad; and the daughters of Judah rejoiced because of thy judgments, O Lord."—Psalm 97: 8.

The Ezekiel class kept on prophesying or preaching God's message. "Thus saith the Lord God unto these bones; Behold, I will cause breath to enter into you, and ye shall live: and I will lay sinews upon you, and will bring up flesh upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and ye shall live; and ye shall know that I am the Lord." (37: 5, 6) The WATCHTOWER Society continued to urge upon Jehovah's remnant the need of organizing for service, and faithful speakers talking to companies joined in prophesying, bringing forth many scriptures to prove that God would give new life to His work on earth, as pictured and foreshadowed by Elisha; and that He would strengthen His people to do it, giving to them a double por-

tion of the spirit of Elijah for that purpose. The Elijah and Elisha pictures, understood for the first time in 1919, were really the opening of the work that has increased from that year until 1946.

From 1919 on the Ezekiel class kept on searching the Bible to ascertain God's will. "So I prophesied as I was commanded: and as I prophesied, there was a noise, and behold a shaking, and the bones came together, bone to his bone." (37:7) From March 1919 to September 1922 such prophesying kept up, not according to out-of-date explanation of prophecy, but according to the Lord's will and commandments, such as Matthew 24:14 and Isaiah 61:1-3. As the preaching or prophesying went on, a noise of dissension arose among the various companies of consecrated people, such as is indicated in verse 7 quoted above. Despite such noise of dissension the faithful remnant continued to send forth organization instructions and to lay out the work to be done and to push the work forward. Then came a shaking, "an earthquake" (says one Bible translation), and the faithful ones shook themselves and aroused themselves to greater activity. As sounded forth centuries previous, at Isaiah 52:1,2: "AWAKE, AWAKE; put on thy strength, O Zion; put on thy beautiful garments, O Jerusalem, the holy city: for henceforth there shall no more come into thee the uncircumcised and the unclean. Shake thyself from the dust; arise, and sit down, O Jerusalem: loose thyself from the bands of thy neck, O captive daughter of Zion." So, as this shaking continued, the faithful "bones" came together, bone to bone. The dead hopes of the war-harassed witnesses were revived. They began to get their spiritual vision properly adjusted. They realized they were not "clean cut off" or "quite cut off" from Jehovah God and His service, as was said at verse 11 of the vision.

Then the remnant began in earnest to form an active, operating organization.

"And when I beheld, lo, the sinews and the flesh came up upon them, and the skin covered them above: but there was no breath in them." (37:8) Those whose hearts were really devoted to the Lord God began to arise from their unclean and dead appearance to a live body of joyful activity in Jehovah's service. Thus they got into unity and in love in Christ and stopped being tossed about by men's opinions.—Ephesians 4:15, 16.

God's faithful remnant continued to present this matter before Him in prayer, secretly and in their assembled companies. This is pictured as follows: "Then said he unto me, Prophecy unto the wind [or, breath], prophecy, son of man, and say to the wind, Thus saith the Lord God: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live." (37:9) God's faithful remnant kept in mind that the work must be accomplished, if at all, not by their own might, but by the spirit of the Lord of hosts. The WATCH TOWER publications continued to prophesy and to instill the spirit of God's work into His witnesses, and the prayer of His people everywhere was that they might fulfill His purposes. Such prophesying or preaching reached a climax on September 8, 1922, at a convention of God's people, at which time they were awakened by the spirit or active force of God as never before.

"So I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood up upon their feet, an exceeding great army." (37:10) Every faithful witness of God who was present at that international convention in 1922 will never forget that hour of great blessing. At that time the remnant saw that Jehovah's "messenger", Christ Jesus, had come to the temple, and realized that they, as Isaiah long before stated, had been "of unclean lips", and they prayed to God and He heard and cleansed them and they began to greatly rejoice. (Isaiah 6:1-9; 12:1-3) Those

who then came to the front were no mere skeletons, by any means, but, as Ezekiel said, like "an exceeding great army" in Jehovah's service, moved by His spirit and strength, and ready to do His will. The faithful spirit-filled remnant were thus brought to the temple condition of unity with their Head and Commander, Christ Jesus, and Jehovah commanded them, as He did Isaiah at the temple long ago, to go forth as His

witnesses to do His service among all nations, bearing testimony concerning His established kingdom. And as the magazine *The Golden Age* and thereafter *Consolation* performed a part during many years of that work from and after 1919, so our hope is that *Awake!* will carry on and perform an even greater work in that behalf during the following years of this Kingdom testimony on earth.



OPA Expiration and Rebirth

WITH Hitler and his friends making progress in their conspiracy to destroy all democracies, it seemed reasonable to many that the American people should agree not to raise prices on anything until the war's end; hence the Office of Price Administration, the OPA.

It is a big job, directing 8,000,000 different services and commodities in the 3,000,000 manufacturing, wholesale, retail and service businesses that go to make up America as it now is. Atop this, the OPA governed the rent in 15,500,000 dwelling units in the 479 defense rental areas where 95,000,000 Americans were war-employed. Additionally, the OPA administered 13 rationing programs, calling for the printing and distribution of 130,000,000 copies of each of four war ration books, millions of mileage of gasoline and fuel oil rationing and hundreds of thousands of purchase certificates for automobiles, tires, etc.

When it was in full swing the OPA had 250,000 workers, of whom three-fourths were volunteers. As of January 1, 1946, there were 38,000 on the OPA payroll. Their job was not a pleasant one. They had to continually say "No! No! No!" and to give the reasons; but they claim to have done a good job, asserting that in the 72 months from the war's beginning in September, 1939, retail prices of consumer goods and serv-

ices in the United States had risen but 31 percent as compared with a rise of 108 percent in the corresponding months of the World War I inflationary period.

●PA Expiration June 30

Congress knew that the OPA would terminate June 30, 1946, but delayed action, though the president had requested it ten months before that date. Finally, at the last minute, they passed a revised bill, but it contained so many amendments and exceptions that the president vetoed it. Remarking that the output of civilian goods already surpasses the 1941 level, and that employment exceeds that level by six million, the president said that inflation and collapse in the United States would gravely jeopardize America's efforts to build better international economic relations. He thought that if he had signed the vetoed bill it would have resulted in sharp and widespread price increases; production slowdowns due to price uncertainties; renewed demands for higher wages due to higher living costs; higher production costs due to production slowdowns and stoppages and to higher labor costs; and therefore immediately higher prices.

There are outspoken opponents of the OPA in both the north and the south, and in both the Democratic and Republican parties. The Republican national

chairman waxed eloquent at Harrisburg, July 4, and said:

We have had the spectacle of the President of the United States defying the expressed will of the people's representatives in Congress and gambling the whole economic structure of this nation in an effort to retain unchanged the authority of a discredited and bungling agency of the executive branch of the Government.

Phelps Adams, columnist for the *New York Sun*, said of the 34,363 persons drawing salaries from the OPA when it expired:

Theoretically they are fighting to save the nation from inflation. Actually they are preaching the doctrine that the American economy can not safely be entrusted to private hands and that the Government must henceforth be empowered to regulate wages, fix prices and determine what companies shall be permitted to make a profit and how much. They are fighting to keep that power in their own hands, and a large body of congressional opinion no longer doubts that the administration spokesmen who have flooded the air waves recently are far less interested in saving the nation from economic disaster than they are in preserving the OPA's totalitarian powers in the hands of the administration not merely for a year, but forever.

The OPA cannot be accused of over-modesty. It has 572 employees in its propaganda section, puts out six general press releases every day in the year, has 600 weekly broadcasts, and spends on this part of the work a little more than \$3,000,000 monthly. Speaking on this point Senator Taft, of Ohio, an opponent of the OPA idea, declared: "If the Justice Department were on the job, it would indict Price Administrator Paul Porter for violating the law by using government money to propagandize for O.P.A."

At one time the OPA was accused of carrying 16,000,000 corpses on its ration program, and it does seem as if somebody could have been used to stop

the issuance of food to people long after they were dead. But let's not expect too much of politicians. In April, 1946, they took 55 items off the OPA list, ranging from hairpins to ice cream freezers.

A month before the OPA collapsed, the president of the American Meat Institute, Chicago, claimed that the OPA regulations were driving the honest operators out of business and turning it over to crooks, cheats and chiselers. At the same time the American Butter Institute, Chicago, claimed that 50 percent of all butter produced in the United States was then going into the black market (that is, into high-class hotels and restaurants) and selling at 80c or more per pound.

The New Legislation

After 25 days of strenuous battle, Congress passed a new OPA bill which was reluctantly approved by the president. Poultry, eggs, tobacco and petroleum are exempted from price control but the new Decontrol Board for which the bill provides may put them again under control, if it sees fit to do so. A special court is set up to hear complaints against the OPA regulations. Rent controls are re-established; after July 25 (the day of signing the new bill) tenants pay no more than they did on June 30.

The president stated that figures of the Bureau of Labor Statistics index of twenty-eight commodities showed an increase of 24.8 percent in 26 days after June 28, 1946, as against an increase of only 13.1 percent in the preceding 3 years and 42 days. He wanted \$142,000,000 to operate the resurrected OPA; Congress awarded him \$75,000,000. The president is expected to ask for more money and to call a special session of Congress if he cannot make the new bill work.

Both the American Meat Institute, speaking for the big packers, and the spokesmen for the 25,000 independent slaughterers, claim that the meat indus-

try cannot be regulated in peacetime and that if the OPA is again applied to meat the black market will be reopened. The Decontrol Board restored control on meat on August 20, effective September 9, and the government announced that it would increase its staff of meat workers, and that this time they would crush the meat black market. 'This prophecy would be more convincing if so much evidence to the contrary had not accumulated while they were in power. In Chicago, the country's meat center, the general prediction of meat spokesmen was that there was bound to be a return to the black market.

The National City Bank of New York, referring to the "gross inequalities in the operation of OPA formulas, admits that "most thoughtful people doubtless find it as hard to formulate sound views on these perplexing questions as the legislators do, and the headlines go as usual to the vociferous".

In Turbulent Syria

◆ There existed in the days of the Crusades a secret society of Moslems called Ishmaelites. They believed that the best way to deal with the invaders of their country was for some courageous man to be detailed to individually murder prominent men among their antagonists.

To stimulate themselves for their projected murders, the Ishmaelites smoked hashish, a narcotic. They came to be called hashish addicts. In Arabic this was simmered down into the one word "Hashishin". The Crusaders were unable to pronounce the word properly and in their language it became "Assassin". The Ishmaelites, or Assassins, if you choose to call them that, still exist, and, says the *Encyclopædia Britannica*, "Doctrines somewhat similar to theirs are still to be met with in north Syria, Persia and India."

TRUE OR FALSE?

Jehovah is the only true God. _____

Man is not immortal. _____

Hell is a place of rest, not torment. _____

The Bible does not teach a trinity. _____

"The Kingdom of Heaven is at hand!" _____

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AUGUST

16-31

Paris Conference Delays

◆ The Paris Peace Conference ended its fifth week of wrangling with the close of August amid less hopeful aspect than those with which it was begun. The Russian foreign minister departed for Moscow without so much as a good-bye. The Council of Foreign Ministers, representing the Big Four, had begun deliberations among themselves in separate meetings, with a view to making provisions for speeding up the deliberations of the conference. During his absence, Molotov would be represented by Vishinsky as deputy foreign minister.

Among other things the conference had considered such thorny problems as the one of Trieste and Albania's demand of \$700,000,000 in reparations from Italy. Egypt also wanted reparations. The conference completed organization of committees to consider the draft treaties with Italy, Rumania, Bulgaria, Hungary and Finland. Some 300 amendments to these treaties (drafted by the Big Four) were submitted by the 21 states. Nineteen of these numerous amendments were offered by the Australian representative, and included a plan for an international Court of Human Rights, intended to protect the fundamental freedoms of individuals in the defeated states and in territories ceded to the

victors. The final disposition of all amendments and recommendations will rest with the Big Four.

Pandemonium in India

◆ The Moslem League's call for "Direct Action" translated itself into mob action and demonstrations directed against the British plan for Indian independence. A mounting toll of dead and wounded marked the outbreak of violence in Bombay, Calcutta and other cities, as Moslems attacked Hindus, and Hindus Moslems. Stabbings, arson and looting accompanied the increasing pandemonium that reigned, particularly in Calcutta. The most conservative estimate of the dead in that city alone was 4,000. British troops, co-operating with native policemen, finally quelled the rioting and restored a measure of order. But the prospective introduction of the Interim Government was expected to result in further violence. The Interim Government is backed by the Congress party, but opposed by the huge Moslem minority. Mohammed Ali Jinnah, president of the Moslem League, has ordered a boycott of the new government, saying that Britain has surrendered to the Congress party, which is predominantly Hindu. Religious tension continued throughout India as the day neared for the induction of the Interim Government.

Yugoslav Crisis

◆ Men, who presume to divide the earth and to set boundaries beyond which other men may not go without special permission, have also pre-empted the air above their respective sections of land. Yugoslavia took offense at American planes flying over her borders (even ever so little), and thus trespassing upon her air. A number of American planes having thus trespassed, allegedly on account of bad weather, Yugoslavians forced down one plane and imprisoned its occupants. Another plane was shot down, August 19, and the occupants, five in number, were killed in the crash. So mangled were the bodies of the unhappy victims that one of them could not be identified. While five coffins were subsequently used to return the remains to the United States, one of them was empty.

Great indignation was felt in the United States and the authorities at Washington sent an ultimatum to Yugoslavia demanding the release of the imprisoned Americans as well as indemnification and apology for the outrage. At this writing the situation has yet to be finally settled.

Dardanelles Issue

◆ The Dardanelles constitutes a narrow outlet from the Black sea into the Mediterranean. It is in Turkish territory and is controlled and guarded by the Turkish government under the Montreux pact of 1936, signed by Russia, Turkey, Britain, France, Greece, Rumania, Bulgaria, Yugoslavia and (strangely) Japan. This pact has yet to run another ten years. The Russians, however, are very much interested in the Dardanelles, as this strait constitutes a means of egress for their ships into the larger waters of the Mediterranean. So the Russian government proposed joint Russian-Turkish defense of the passage and control by the Black Sea powers of Russia, Rumania, Bulgaria and Turkey. The proposal was definitely rejected by Turkey,

which was backed by Great Britain and the United States. A Turkish note to Russia on the subject said, "The most sure guarantee for security of the Soviet Union in the Black sea resides not in a search of a privileged strategical position in the Straits—a position incompatible with the dignity and sovereign rights of an independent country—but in the restoration of friendly, trusting relations with a strong Turkey." Turkey also said that the United Nations would be sufficient guarantee of the strait's security.

Japan's New Charter

◆ All members of the lower house of the Japanese Parliament supported the draft of the new constitution for Japan, voting 400 to 6 in its favor. The constitution proclaims the sovereignty of the people and renounces warfare. Opposing the adoption of the charter was Sanzo Nosaka, a Communist, who said: "I do not think that the Constitution realizes as perfect a democracy as was desired by the Potsdam Declaration. . . . We demanded the insertion in the Constitution of guarantees of the rights of workers but we have been disapproved." The document next went to the House of Peers, who, however, were not expected to act on it until the end of September. The House of Peers will be abolished when the new basic law is enacted.

The Mufti and the Conference

◆ The British government, in view of the troubled situation in Palestine, arranged for a conference on Palestine to be held in London. Representatives of the Arabs and Jews were invited to attend. But the Arabs demanded that Haj Amin el Huseini, mufti of Jerusalem, be invited. However, as this gentleman was very friendly with the Nazis during the war, and fled to Egypt to escape trial, the British were firmly resolved that he should not be invited. The Arabs said they would not send

any representatives, and the Jews also said they would not come. But the British government's spokesmen asserted the conference would be held none the less as planned, and that representatives from outside the Arab committee, as well as Jews from outside the Jewish Agency for Palestine, would be invited.

Zionist Terrorists Sentenced

◆ Singing defiantly and loudly, eighteen young Jewish men heard sentence of death passed upon them, while four young Jewish women were sentenced to life imprisonment. They were found guilty by a Haifa military court of complicity in a bomb raid on Haifa railway shops. There is no doubt that the young extremists were actuated by religious motives. The death sentences were commuted to life imprisonment toward the end of August.

Council Opposes Jewish State

◆ The Council of Judaism has sent a letter to the State Department urging opposition to the "establishment of a Jewish State" in Palestine. It is convinced that such a Jewish state would constitute an "unwarranted grievous injury" to Americans of Jewish belief who are not in sympathy with such a plan. Lessing J. Rosenwald, representing the Council of Judaism, wrote that to set up a Jewish state might have a harmful effect on the political status of Jews in countries in which they are now equal citizens. The council feels that Jews opposing a Jewish state should have a voice in the deliberations on the subject which are now in prospect in London.

Greek Vote on King

◆ Greece became one of the trouble spots of Europe, what with Russian charges that she was fomenting strife in the Balkans and the further charge that the prospective voting for the return of King George II would be carried out under conditions which prevented the exercise of

freedom of the ballot. The presence of British troops was referred to as foreign interference in the internal affairs of Greece, and the prospective visit of the aircraft carrier Franklin D. Roosevelt to a Greek port was construed to be a sort of American pressure upon the Greeks to influence the vote. British soldiers, it was pointed out by England, however, would remain in their barracks on the day of the plebiscite, and the intended visit of the Franklin D. Roosevelt with accompanying war ships would not take place until several days later. Registration lists in Greece for 1936 elections carried 2,211,791 names, but registered voters as of August 31 were only about 1,700,000.

American Note to Poland

◆ Alleged discriminations and irregularities in the Polish referendum vote of June 30 led the United States to send a note to Poland on August 19 expressing official American regret and set forth what the United States considered essential to holding a free national election. In response the Polish Embassy protested that this was interfering in Poland's internal affairs. Americans, however, stated that the Yalta and Potsdam agreements indicated that the parties to those agreements, including the United States, would have some interest and responsibility in seeing that free and unfettered elections were held in liberated territories.

New United Nations Members

◆ Admission of new members into the circle of the United Nations last month presented quite a problem to that body. The applications of nine nations were on file, but one of them, Siam, in view of its current quarrel with France, withdrew its application. Of the other eight applicants only three were accepted, Afghanistan, Iceland and Sweden. Albania and the Mongolian People's Republic did not get the required number of

votes, even though they were approved by the Soviet, Trans-Jordan, Portugal and Eire did receive the needed number of votes, but were excluded by the Russian veto, leaving them out in the cold. They can try again another year.

The Nuremberg Trials

◆ In the latter part of August the lengthy Nuremberg trials of Nazi criminals drew to a close. Besides demanding conviction of twenty-one leading Nazis, prosecutors also called upon the four-power International Military Tribunal to pass sentence upon six Nazi groups: the Elite Guard, the Storm Troopers, the Nazi Party's Leadership Corps, the Gestapo, the High Command and the Cabinet. Thomas J. Dodd of the American staff said that by such conviction "mankind will know that no crime will go unpunished because it was committed in the name of a political party or of a state; that no crime will be passed by because it is too big; that no criminals will avoid punishment because they are too many". He charged the mentioned organizations with being responsible for "criminal conspiracy, aggressive war, mass murder, slave labor, racial and religious persecutions and brutal mistreatment of millions of innocent people".

Spain Ousts Nazis

◆ An edict, issued by the Spanish government August 20, required 94 Germans residing in Spain to leave and return to Germany. Among them were some German Nazis whom the Allies have been trying to get out of Spain for more than a year. Nearly all are former Nazi officials, agents and party officers. The edict represents the strongest action yet taken by the Spanish government regarding German fugitives.

World Conference of Teachers

◆ Educators from thirty countries assembled at Endicott, N.Y., in the last two weeks of August

with a view to establishing a world organization of teachers. The hundred delegates hoped to contribute toward world peace.

Among other things "world textbooks" were suggested as a means of bringing peoples of various nations together, eliminating the nationalistic and narrow prejudices which are often found in history textbooks for schools, each nation glorifying itself at the expense of other nations. The teachers were urged to constitute themselves "screening-boards" to sift out, remove bias. Incidents that aroused rivalry among nations should be minimized, thought the delegates.

The English language was hailed by the delegates as the world's most important tongue and rapidly attaining the role of being the universal language. It was pointed out that half the globe was still illiterate, however.

At the conclusion of the conference a constitution was adopted to establish a World Organization of the Teaching Profession. It will require the approval of ten National teaching associations throughout the world, however, to formally establish the world organization. Every one of the delegates present signed the document.

World Oil Control Proposed

◆ An International Petroleum Authority under the United Nations to maintain order in that field was proposed by American state department officials. John A. Loftus, chief of the department's petroleum officials, pointed out that petroleum being important in peace and in war, there would of necessity be suspicion, intrigue, power politics and maneuverings connected with national control of available sources. He mentioned, too, that United States reserves indicated it would be necessary within twenty years to import half of the oil used by this country. The Petroleum Authority under discussion would be placed under the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations.

Belated Awakening

◆ Awakening to their responsibility in the matter of those imprisoned for conscientiously refraining from participating in the war, some 300 Protestant clergymen addressed a letter to President Truman, urging him to free conscientious objectors and others thus incarcerated. Pointing out that the majority of these prisoners are Jehovah's witnesses (and therefore not conscientious objectors to war but claiming exemption as ministers), the clergymen stated, "We feel that this treatment of a minority group motivated by the highest idealism, more than a year after the end of hostilities with Japan, is not in keeping with the heritage of freedom of conscience and religion which you and all of us cherish." Asking for the restoration of full civil rights, the statement said: "It is surely regrettable that, here in the United States, men whose only crime has been fidelity to conscience should continue to be punished in some cases with sentences which will not expire until 1951."

Virgin's Assumption

◆ It is assumed by the assumption circles of the Roman Catholic religion that the mother of Jesus was taken bodily to heaven (when she was past sixty). Some versions of the story have it that she died and that the soul went first and then, a day or two after, the body followed. At any rate (according to this theory), the virgin is now complete in heaven, having her aged body, although everybody else who goes to heaven does very well without a body. Now the pope is asking the laymen what they think on the subject of the assumption (her being thus taken to heaven), and if the results indicate the laity are agreeable, he will proclaim it as a formal doctrine, although it never has been "defined". Of course, the teachings of the church never change, but it is new to find out what it believes by consulting the laity.

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