

THE BIBLE ADVOCATE



HERALD OF THE COMING KINGDOM

THY WORD IS TRUTH

"THY WORD IS A LAMP UNTO MY FEET. AND A LIGHT UNTO MY PATH."

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GREAT PEACE HAVE THEY THAT LOVE THY LAW; AND NOTHING SHALL OFFEND THEM.

The "Pact of Paris" Will It End War?

Herbert W. Armstrong

On August 27th, the nations of the world signed the Kellogg treaty, outlawing war.

"One of the greatest events since the birth of Christ," this event is hailed in the opening words of the Literary Digest's lead article on the "Pact" in its issue of September 8th.

Indeed, the general attitude, judging from the public press, seems to be that Christ gave us the TEACHINGS of peace, so now our great politicians have ushered in its realization.

At least, it is regarded everywhere as the greatest step yet taken in the direction of international peace.

The German Foreign Minister, Herr Stresemann, believes the Pact holds the basis for the creation "of a world in which war, one of the most terrible scourges of humanity, will no longer exist."

Aristide Briand, of France, declares it "marks a new date in history making."

Lord Cushenden, who signed the treaty for Great Britain, has not the least doubt that it is "the biggest step yet taken toward the establishment and perpetuation of peace."

In South America, "La Nacion," of Buenos Aires, sees humanity obtaining a new victory.

"In our country," states the Digest, "the Pact of Paris is heartily acclaimed in the press."

So humanity, the world over, looks into the future and prophesies peace and safety. The man of the world hails August 27th as a historical date in the history of the world—a date on which he believes he achieved a great step forward toward peace.

Unfortunately, however, history would indicate that when mortal man attempts to prophesy, he invariably makes a miserable failure of the job. Only when we turn to the pages of God's inspired Word,

and study the prophecy foretold by the Guiding Hand behind the forces of the universe and of life, do we find prophecy of dependable and unerring accuracy.

We have seen what man thinks about this Peace Pact. Now let us see what the Word of God has to say about it.

"When they shall say peace and safety, then sudden destruction cometh upon them . . . and they shall not escape." 1 Thess. 5:3.

They shall proclaim "Peace, peace; when there is no peace." Jer. 6:14.

For some years—since the closing of the World War, the world has been talking peace. International alliances have been agitated and made. The League of Nations—the International Court of Justice—and now the Pact of Paris, outlawing war. Now, at last, the world has reached the stage when our world statesmen are proclaiming "peace and safety."

But while our renowned statesmen and diplomats have been talking about peace, and signing some additional "scraps of paper," what have the nations of the world actually been DOING?

Let us leave these political diplomats basking in the sunshine of their own glory and peace achievements, and consult men of a different department of the great government—the war and navy departments. Do we hear any of the great army and navy leaders shouting "Peace," and assuring us of world safety?

The other day I met a young American-born officer of the British Navy, in Portland on brief furlough.

"The politicians sign a scrap of paper, and the world shouts 'Peace,'" he said bitterly, with deep contempt in his voice. "Peace," he derided. "while at the very moment they signed that Pact, every nation which was a party to it, was preparing with feverish haste for war. We will be in the grip of another world-war catastrophe within two years."

"Within two years," I echoed astonished. "I am

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expecting it, but I had not anticipated the next outbreak quite that soon."

"It is coming sooner than the world at large dreams of," he replied. "The world is asleep—asleep! It is being plunged headlong toward war right now."

"But what can cause another war so soon?" I inquired.

"Well, England's next war," he replied gravely "will begin in the nature of a rebellion. The seeds of insidious propaganda are being sowed in India and British foreign possessions. It is bound to involve Great Britain in war in the very near future."

"Who is the instigator of this war-stirring propaganda?"

"Russia. Russia, who also stirred up the recent trouble in China. Russia is attempting by her system of insidious propaganda, to gain a strong-hold on ignorant foreign peoples of great population, such as China and India. She is preparing, in this way, to strike at England. The Soviet is secretly and craftily gaining a control little dreamed of by the world. Russia soon will be a world power to be reckoned with. She has introduced a new system into the world—her system of secret intrigue, underground propaganda, inciting the passions and prejudices of ignorant and unthinking masses. Thru it she is gaining a peculiar power—not alone in her own strength, but over the most populous peoples on the face of the globe."

"How about Mussolini?" I asked. "Do you see a possibility of an alliance between Mussolini and Russia, which, in the coming war will line up against Great Britain and the United States?"

"Yes," was the emphatic reply. "That is a likely development and combination of alliances. Mussolini is gaining control over Southern European people. Allied with Russia, reinforced by the almost inexhaustible man-power of the hundreds of millions in China and India—with this power back of him, Mussolini would no doubt believe he could successfully conquer the world where others have failed—and be foolhardy enough to attempt it."

"What will be the nature of the next war?" I asked him.

"It will be a war of science," was the quick reply. "Many instruments of warfare employed in the World War will be obsolete. The chief offensive weapons will be the new poison gasses, and laboratory developed disease germs, sprayed from pilotless airplanes controlled from the ground by radio. By this means whole cities can be wiped out far from the scene of actual hostilities, without the attackers risking a single life, while the attacked can do practically nothing. It will not be a war between armies, as all previous wars have been, but the attack will be on all people, including old men, women and innocent little children. The point of attack will be the large cities, the industrial and

manufacturing centers, and the food-producing sections. Oh, it will be TERRIBLE," he added with a shudder. "War is sure—. I have three brothers sleeping in France—all killed in the last war. The next one will get me, I suppose."

All leading nations, this young naval officer asserted, are preparing for war more rapidly than the public knows. Airplanes will be the chief weapons, with poison gasses and disease germs the ammunition.

Here on the Pacific Coast we hear a lot about our Pacific Fleet—about our great battleships, which many leading authorities now declare to be virtually obsolete. But we hear little about United States Army or Navy preparation in the air, except criticism that our government is asleep and lagging behind other nations in aviation preparedness.

I became anxious to know the facts. An airplane passenger company now operates tri-motored eight-passenger monoplanes between Portland and San Francisco and Los Angeles, making three trips each way each week. Perhaps I could obtain some information from these people. I went to their downtown ticket office.

There I inquired about their passenger service, and then asked the agent whether he knew what our government is doing in relation to preparedness in the air, as well as on land and sea.

"Oh yes," he assured me, "you may rest assured our government is not asleep to the fact the next war will be fought largely in the air. The public little dreams of the tremendous strides our government is taking in the way of aviation preparedness. Right now the United States is the equal, if not the superior, of any nation on earth in war time aviation strength."

"Why," he continued, "every plane we operate on our passenger service is built under strict government supervision. Every plane is completely equipped with Government war-time equipment. On a few short moments' notice, our planes may be converted from luxurious passenger planes into the latest-type fully-equipped war-time fighting planes! Our pilots are, of course, highly trained and skilled aviators,—subject to immediate draft by the Government in time of war. The same thing is true of every passenger and freight air line in the country—and there are far more of these than the public seem to realize.

"Take all our government mail planes—all the privately owned and operated passenger and freight lines. All together, these compose a formidable array of planes. Every one is fully equipped with war equipment, and can be almost instantaneously converted into war planes. Every pilot is a trained war-time aviator, in time of need. Then add to these the planes and war-trained pilots and aviation officers in our regular military aviation stations, and

you gain some conception of what our aviation strength really amounts to. In time of war, the men being trained in the regular military aviation fields would become the officers, the pilots on all private passengers and freight lines, and on all government air-mail planes, would become our fighting men.

"Don't you think for a moment," he concluded, "that our country is not preparing for war in the air. We are fully prepared right now to match strength with any nation on earth in the air."

Few have any conception of the gigantic scale on which airplanes are being manufactured and put into active service in the United States. Aviation is fast becoming a great American industry. Production of new airplanes in the United States last year reached approximately 2,000. Two-thirds of these represented commercial planes—for passengers and freight service. Yet every one is fully equipped for war, and may be converted into a fighting plane on a few moments' notice.

But production of airplanes is mounting by leaps and bounds. This year's output has jumped to seven and one half times that of last year! Production of new planes for this year is now placed at more than 15,000 planes, according to a report issued by J. Roy Prosser & Co., on aviation progress. Freight and passenger service has now been established in practically all parts of the country, and between all leading cities.

So, when we seek information from those who know what armies and navies are doing—when we get the real facts of what is being actually DONE, instead of said, and shouted by politicians and diplomats—we see that the words of Bible prophecy, indeed, have an ominous sound for those who are willing to listen to the warning.

The world is lulling itself to sleep with the foolish cry of "Peace and safety." But, as the Bible says, "there is no peace."

Instead, we are in days when we find "upon the earth distress of nations, with perplexity . . . men's hearts failing them for fear." Luke 21:25, 26. In the day of "great earthquakes in divers places, famines and pestilences; and fearful sights and great signs." Luke 21:11. We are in the days when the world is shouting "A confederacy," as its human means of establishing world peace—the days when the Bible warns us, "Say ye not, A confederacy." Isa. 8:12. These are days when men are seeking lasting peace by associating themselves together, and taking counsel, while at the same time their scientists invent new poison gasses and scientific means of wholesale destruction to life, their armies and navies are maintained at larger and more efficient proportions than at any previous time in world's peace-time history, and every nation is busily engaged in plans of "preparedness." The days

signified by the Bible prophecy, "Associating yourselves, O ye people, and ye shall be broken in pieces . . . Take counsel together, and it shall come to naught." Isa. 8:9, 10.

The Bible says, "the ambassadors of peace shall weep bitterly." Isa. 33:7.

Today we have our ambassadors of peace. They are associating themselves together, taking counsel together, organizing leagues and councils and confederacies, and having signed a "Peace Pact," are now engaged in loudly proclaiming to the world "Peace and safety." But the Bible says—and all the facts concerning actual activities of the nation bear out—that SUDDEN DESTRUCTION IS COMING!

Not peace. Not safety. Sudden destruction! It is coming "as travail upon a woman with child,"—suddenly without warning. It is coming at "such an hour as ye think not." Matt. 24:44.

Every nation is TALKING peace—but it is preparing for WAR!

While people are shouting "Peace and safety," they are, in fact, being hurled headlong toward the most terrible war of all. Sudden destruction lurks just around the corner!

Dark words? A gloomy, foreboding outlook? A hopeless future?

For the world, which is in rebellion against God and Christ, the Prince of Peace, yes! For the willfully blind, the unsuspecting, the disbelieving, trusting in the peace plans of human men in whose breasts smoulder the burning coals of hatred, jealousy, prejudice, ready to burst forth into sudden fury and anger, laying hold of the deadly modernized means of warfare at their disposal—for such the outlook is indeed foreboding and hopeless—unless they open their eyes and minds to the truth, repent, and seek peace from the only source it may be found—by acknowledging Jesus Christ as the Head, the Guiding Influence, and the Way.

But for those who have not blinded their eyes to understanding—for those who fear the Lord and have accepted the salvation He purchased for them, and who look to Him for protection, No! To all such the trend of world events and the prophecies concerning them mean only that real, lasting, true peace is actually much nearer than our self-sufficient world leaders really suspect.

The advocates of military preparedness admonish us: "In time of peace, prepare for war!" That is what the world is doing. It is preparing in the most advanced sense, for war.

The understanding Christian, too, believes in preparedness. The Word of God admonishes preparedness for war in time of peace—but it is not military preparedness. It is a preparedness, however, which guarantees protection. The nature of

this preparedness we shall discuss in a succeeding installment.

The events of the world are all shaping themselves toward the final great war—the War of Armageddon! The world little realizes the secret influences which have been furiously at work since the closing days of the World War—the secret alliances which have been made between the very nation which, according to prophecy, shall usher in the War of Armageddon—the activities involving Bolshevist Russia, Germany, Turkey, the Pope of Rome, the “black pope,” or head of the secret “Jesuit Society,” and Mussolini.

For the succeeding installment we are reserving some astounding news of events, plots, secret alliances and undertakings, aims, plans and purposes, involving the above-named powers—news which will prove a revelation to the average reader.

To be continued

Kansas-Nebraska Conference Report

The 36th., annual Conference of the Church of God (seventh day) convened at Bassett, Nebraska, September 26, 1928 at 2:30 P. M. Number 18 in part 2 was sang, after which Elder A. N. Dugger read a scripture lesson from Matt. 25:14-30, and explained the lesson as it pertains to us. Elder J. F. Jensen led in audible prayer and Number 83 in part 1 was sang. Our President, Elder L. L. Presler, made several brief remarks concerning the work and our object. The meeting was declared open for business and in the absence of the secretary the chair appointed Rudolph Haffner as secretary pro-tem.

The matter of the continuation of Nebraska and Kansas in one conference body and doing active work under the direction of the conference officers and board, was brought up for consideration—a number of brethren speaking.

The chair appointed a committee on resolutions as follows:

Alexander Dugger, Hugh Miller and Paul Carpenter.

Also the committee for issuing, revoking or recommending license and credentials of ministers as follows:

Garfield Larson, F. G. Zoller and Harley Presler.

The question as to whether other or better arrangements can be made for the time of holding our annual conference was raised; several speaking—mentioning the facts that this season is most convenient here, and that business for the consideration of the General Conference would be carried over to its next session or taken up with the board of that body by the board of this body.

The conference adjourned to meet at 2:00 P. M. September 27.

The second session of conference convened after 2:00 P. M., September 27, 1928. Elder L. L. Presler read Heb. 2:6-18 for a scripture lesson and Brother A. F. Dugger led in prayer.

The minutes of the preceding session were read and after one correction were approved.

The matter of some one capable to use a typewriter and act as Field Secretary in each of the two states was mentioned and the merits of such considered.

The fact that there are enough members in these states to support from four to six ministers right now, if all would feel responsibility in the gospel work was spoken about, also the advisability of acquainting all the members about this—to start the work and bringing ministers here soon to engage in labor.

Motion moved and seconded that the secretary (elect) of this conference be instructed to write the members in both states, right away after this conference meeting and acquaint them with the object of the conference; learning somewhere near the amount of their support and that stationery and postage be provided for this purpose;—that the secretary also be allowed some compensation for his time, lest he cannot afford to donate the time. Motion carried.

The matter of tithes and offerings as financial support for all the work was considered in this light: that where our treasure is there will our heart be also.

The conference adjourned to meet at 10 o'clock Sunday A. M.

The third session of conference convened after 10 A. M., September 31, 1928.

Brother F. G. Zoller led in a word of prayer. The minutes of previous sessions were read and approved, and following this the minutes of last year's conference were read and accepted.

The license and credential committee reported as follows:

For credentials: L. L. Presler, J. F. Jensen and A. F. Dugger. For license: Rudolph Haffner, F. G. Zoller and Erwin Gillispie. The report was accepted and the committee retained throughout the year. Several remarks were made concerning the reason for retaining this committee.

Remarks were offered on the mistake of a local church hiring a pastor—thus establishing a precedent, stating that the local man should receive his compensation from our conference.

The Resolution Committee reported and after one alteration their report was accepted as follows:

Whereas we are now assembled in the annual Kansas-Nebraska Conference in the year of our Lord 1928, we re-affirm our allegiance to the Crea-