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COMMENTS ON MEN AND THINGS

BY SPECTATOR

Christianity and Communism ancient Incas of Peru, can't live together, says Mr. Those who follow the lessons recently used in the Church

Peurifoy.

Is religion worth anything?

Do we believe what we read in the Bible? Is there any reality in our profession, or is the He chided them for not seekling the chided them for not seekling His guidance with quietness work of the Church just a sort ing His guidance with quietness of make-believe? I ask all this because I purpose to argue a point which you will not accept if you think our faith is forces.

Is it true that Jehovah is cept if you think our faith is vain, or if you have no faith in the reality of our religion.

I do not have to apologize for discussing the greatest question which confronts every man and every woman. The cemeteries in every community proclaim the certainty of death; and nearly all wonder about God, certainly when they think their days are numbered and forces.

Is it true that Jehovah is more than a match for the embattled nations of today? Is the interested in us? Do we deserve His interest and help?

If we really believe in the fact of the Creator's intervention in the affairs of men what are the conditions upon which we may have his strength to buttress our efforts? their days are numbered and buttress our efforts? that they may soon stand be-

surely as can men.

History tells of the splendor and arrogance of ancient monarchs; and their sumptuous "For what Nation is there so style was not more imposing great, who hath so nigh unto than the voluptuous ease of rulers of later eras. But the power of those Kings is now him for?" rulers of later eras. But the power of those Kings is now "one with Nineveh and Tyre."

The intellectual greatness of Greece is as deeply submerged today as is the grandeur of Caesar, while the realms of Assyria and Babylon and the Kingdom of Alexander the Great are buried so deep that they are of interest only to patient, persistent delvers and diggers, as truly in the mists of lost empires as that of the

lenge Him?

If we believe the lessons of the Bible should we try to have relations with a Nation which

I do not hesitate to ask the

We are told that our religion must be practical. Well, what for Him.

I am not planning to speak of death and personal, individual salvation; but the Book of Life tells of God's dealing with Nations, as well as with individuals. Nations can be lost as did they prove the wisdom of

of across the desert of California.
of Miles away we saw a river,
all clear, sparkling, rippling water. purpose failures our life since the mankind are seen floating

Just think of this: who can tell what will happen next Who can surely east the next generation? Some times our wisdom seems suffi-cient for a short time, but even at best we are poor guessers. But Jehovah of Abraham will hold the universe in his hand thousands of years from now. Who then, are we to chal-

repudiates Jehovah? I ask this in all the sincerity of practi-

Men and women may become so impressed by the apparent strength of certain powers that the so-called discretion and prudence we have cultivated suggest emphatically that we make friends with the unreligious nation rather than to be we are here face to face with a problem which involves the very warp and woof of our religion: do we believe in our re-ligion? Or is the last word in wisdom the counsel of men?

question because either we be-lieve or we do not. Sometimes it seems that there is a middle ground, but that is usually the case of one whose mind dictates one course but whose courage fails. You will recall the case of the man who brought his son to Jesus after the disciples failed to heal him. The response of the Master of "All things are possible to him that believeth." The distressed father's reply probably expresses what afflicts most of us: "Lord I believe; help thou mine unbelief." May we consider for a moment whether we believe that?

Our religious problem is only that of individual salvation; history proves clearly that judgment comes to Nations, as well as to individuals.

Would not America be strong. er in the strength of Jehovah than merely by reliance on su-perior physical force? We un-derstand, of course, that the Most High requires a man to try, to use his best efforts, even when dedicating himself to Jehovah and invoking His protec-tion. You will find it interest-ing to read the story of Gideon in the Book of Judges; and one equally practical is that told of the investigators sent out by Moses to study the Promised Land. As is true now, the Committee was divided, the majority said that the enemy were giants and that the investigators themselves were only as grasshoppers, both in the sight of the enemy and in their own sight. But two of the Committee were men of better stuff mittee were men of better stuff
—Caleb and Joshua. Caleb
stilled the anuished cry of the
multitude, saying "Let us go
up at once, and possess it; for
we are well able to overcome
it." But the people were so
thoroughly frightened by the
report that giants lived in the
Promised Land that they cried
out against Moses and threatout against Moses and threat-ened to overthrow Moses. In this turmoil Joshua and Caleb spoke: "If the Lord delight in

spoke: "If the Lord delight in us, then he will bring us into this land, and give it us." Do we believe that? Are we of the same enlightened spiritual force as Joshua and Caleb? Or do we believe that Jehovah is a figure of remote antiquity and no longer the "I am" of the day of Moses?

As practical men, as soldiers, Caleb and Joshua said again: "The Lord is with us: fear them not." And the children of Israel made a vow to Jehovah, and they took Canaan.

We have been taught the lesson of Jehovah's protecting son of Jehovah's protecting care, and we recall His deal-ings with Assyria, so long as His people called on Him in

faith.

The story of Elisha's servant has always been interesting and illuminating. He saw the army, the horses and chariots of Assyria surrounding the city, and he cried out to Elisha "Alas, My Master! how shall we do?" And Elisha answered: "Fear not: for they that be with us are more than they that be with them." And the servant saw the forces of Jehovah, horses and chariots of hovah, horses and chariots of fire. Now let me quote some-thing you will recall: "And that night the Angel of the Lord went out and smote in the camp of the Assyrians an hundred, four score and five

Is this Mighty Power available to us now? What means all the churches, the organized

all the churches, the organized army of the Lord?
So when Mr. John E. Peurifoy of the State Department says that "Christianity and Communism cannot exist in the same world," he is thoroughly supported by Scripture, if he means that Communism is a repudiation of God, as is true in Russia. true in Russia.

If we could put aside our conceit and forget our importance for a while we might see life in a long view, like one on a hill-top overlooking the long stretches of low land. One of our troubles is that life is somewhat of a mirage. Did you ever see a mirage? I had heard about them all my life, but I saw one while travelling

I thought of what a glorious, theartening sight it must have been to the early explorers who saw it after days of toilsome climbing over mountains, with hunger and thirst about to shrivel them to mummies. Miles and miles we travelled, always approaching that inviting stream, but when at length we had located the river, it was no river, it wasn't even water, not even a drop. Men had committed suicide on finding this tragic deception; their parched throats and hanging tongues had endured as long as they saw what looked like

as they saw what looked like Standing in the old graveyeard at Stoke Poges, England, I saw life, human ambition,

The paths of glory lead but to the grave."

The span of human life is short; the range of human knowledge is small; the reach of human wisdom narrowly circumscribed; the vision of man, of short distance, as to time as well as space; the work of his genius crumbles and decays; so the practical man, the embres of the practical man, the embres of the practical man, calls for something better than he finds within himself. What is there that will stand against time and error? The Book has an answer for that, too. And Solomon who was a builder and a ruler, a man of wisdom still celebrated as preeminent among men, made explorations in life;

The November meeting of the wisdom still title Miss Beaumond Ballentine of Greenville spent last were miniature baskets of the little Miss Beaumond Ballentine of Greenville spent last week with Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Ballentine.

Mr. and Mrs. G. C. Wise and their son, Bobby, of Washing-ton, D. C., were Sunday guests of Mr. and Mrs. B. T. Young.

Misses Jeannine Ballentine and Nelle Harmon, Winthrop College students, were at home for the weekend.

The garden clubs are all pleased with the response to their appeal to clean the Prosperity cemetery. Again they wish to thank all who have cooperated.

The Dovember meeting of the William Lester chapter of the William Lester chapter of the Week with Mr. and Mrs. G. C. Wise and their son, Bobby, of Washing-ton, D. C., were Sunday guests of Mr. and Mrs. B. T. Young.

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Mrs. John Mrs. G. C. Wise and their son a ruler, a man of wisdom still celebrated as preeminent among men, made explorations in life; as he said: "And I gave my heart to seek and search out by wisdom concerning all things that are done under heaven: . . . I have seen all the works that are done under the sun; . . . I am come to leave to celebrated. High to thank all who have cooperated.

The Literary Sorosis will meet Friday afternoon at 3:30 with Mrs. T. A. Dominick.
R. W. Ballentine of Cameron spent the weekend with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Barnes and Mrs. Emily Counts spent the weekend with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Barnes.

Sunday of Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Barnes and Mrs. W. A. Ballentine.

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ford.

PROSPERITY

Miss Dorothy Leaphart entertained with a lovely party Saturday night. The Thanksgiving motif was used in the decorations and games. Most, of the entertainment was group games with prizes for the group. One individual game prize was won by Miss Joy Thomason. Await alike the inevitable hour:

The paths of glory lead but to the grave."

The span of human life is

Mr. and Mrs. Clyde E. Bedenbaugh of Manning spent the weekend with their parents, Mrs. J. A. Counts and Mrs. Maxcy Bedenbaugh.

Mrs. Maxcy Bedenbau

Mr. and Mrs. Mayo Creel of Hemmingway were week end guests of Mrs. Creel's parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Perry.
Mrs. Jake Wheeler spent last
Monday in Aboeville with her
parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. S.

Mrs. A. E. Tinsley and Miss Annie Lee Langford of Spartanburg were guests Saturday Misses Susie and Mary Lang-

E. B. Kibler of Dublin, Ga. is visiting his sister and bro-ther, Miss Blanch Kibler and Dr. E. N. Kibler.

Mr. and Mrs. Cole Wessinger spent Sunday in Columbia with Mr. and Mrs. Earle Derrick. Mrs. M. D. Derrick and Roy Derrick were in Columbia Sunday as guests of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Derrick.

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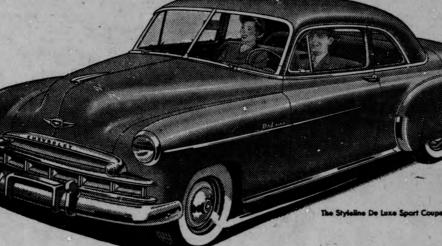
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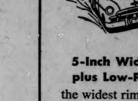
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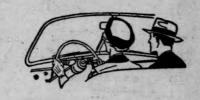
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