

## THE GATHERING STORM

(Continued from last issue)

nineteenth century. It emphasized the conviction of multitudes that we face the true beginnings of prophetic fulfilments that can only end in the final realization of Israel's glorious restoration and the return of the Lord. The way may seem long, but the rush of events will grow in volume and intensity until the Antichrist is here, the great Tribulation passes over the still unbelieving Jews, and their political and spiritual deliverance is accomplished.

"It is reported that thirty-five thousand Jews entered Palestine as immigrants in 1925, nearly three times as many as in 1924. The various Zionist organizations made provision for their proper reception and settlement. New colonies were laid out. Older settlements were strengthened. The Jews greatly increased their holdings of land. Road-building, drainage of swamps, founding of factories and the development of the Rutenberg electric scheme went on with increased energy.

'Olive culture has taken on new life. A new mill at Haifa is able to crush twenty-five thousand tons of olives a year. Jews have planted many thousands of the eucalyptus tree and the myrtle tree of Isaiah 55:13. Work has begun in rebuilding the ancient mountain terraces. Tens of thousands of vines have been planted. Jewish fishermen from Salonica have undertaken to revive the fisheries of Palestine. The government experts have reported the mineral wealth of the Dead Sea as being forty billion dollars. In a few years the Jews have invested ten million dollars in industrial undertakings in Palestine.

"Many prophecies about the rebuilding of the old wastes have had fulfillment in recent years. The Hebrew University at Jerusalem was formerly opened by Lord Balfour April 1st, 1925, and is becoming the center of a great system of Zionist schools where all teaching is done in Hebrew." \*

Do you know that fifty-six thousand Jews have been baptized since the close of the recent war? And that some ninety Rabbis and educated leaders, dissatisfied with Judaism, have inquired as to their prospects should they abandon Judaism? How startling to learn that God is thus working among His own ancient people! Remember, their hearts are hungry. Let us not argue with them, but rather just treat them as ordinary sinners needing a Saviour. Their case is perfectly met by Romans 10:1-3.

The revival of the Roman Empire under the leadership of Mussolini is now no idle dream. Measures still more drastic have been used for the safeguarding of Fascism. Mussolini is himself the recognized head and executive of Italy. No living man holds the power that is now his. The handshake is giving place to the ancient Roman salute. Newspapers have been reduced to six pages, and no sports, social functions, art exhibitions, crimes or foreign news can be published. All except Fascist papers have been banned entirely. A dispatch by the Associated Press reads as follows: "Twelve million dollars annually has been voted by cabinet as the government's contribution to the City of Rome to be used in the work of restoring the ancient grandeur of the capital in accordance with Mussolini's plans."

It will be remembered that the Antichrist

is to change times and seasons. According to new Fascist ruling, the calendar, we are told, is to be changed in Italy beginning with the 28th day of October, 1927. That day begins the fifth year of Fascism, and all official documents instead of being dated according to the year of our Lord, will bear the date of the year five.

With the consent of the Vatican, Mgr. Gaggia, the Bishop of Brescia, publicly read from his cathedral pulpit the Fascist Creed and Catechism, taught in the Belilla, or infant training centers organized throughout Italy by Signor Mussolini. The Creed consists of these twelve articles:

1. I believe in Rome Eternal, the mother of my Fatherland;
  2. And in Italy, her firstborn;
  3. Who was born of her virgin womb;
  4. Who suffered under the barbarian invader, was crucified, slain and buried;
  5. Who descended into the sepulchre, and rose again from the dead in the nineteenth century;
  6. Who ascended to heaven in her glory in 1918 and in 1922 (by the March on Rome);
  7. Who is seated at the right hand of Mother Rome;
  8. Who will come hence to judge the quick and the dead;
  9. I believe in the genius of Mussolini;
  10. In our Holy Father Fascism and in the communion of its martyrs;
  11. In the conversion of the Italians; and
  12. In the resurrection of the Empire.
- Amen!

Recently the newspapers carried the following startling report: "Dictator Mussolini's two and a half hour speech, in which he pictured the Italy of ten years from now, overflowing with humanity, armed with the most perfect weapons of modern science and capable of throwing five million men on the battlefield between 1935 and 1940, is one of the most remarkable statements ever uttered by a statesman.

"History records no similar instance of a head of a government predicting and apparently inviting conflicts within fixed dates.

"The duce's eldest child, the high-spirited seventeen-year-old Edda, fashionably dressed, sat in a box and listened while her father spread in panorama future history in which he was the supreme figure.

"The Italian people had expected something unusual, but nothing so breath-taking as what they got. The duce was applauded for five minutes, while he stood sniffing his inevitable sniffles. He rose occasionally, raising his hands for silence, before a table covered with carefully arranged notes and memoranda. All felt that he would announce the future of the nation. But they were struck dumb when they realized he was preparing for a decisive trial of strength within ten years."

Mussolini considers that destiny has appointed him as the man to purify the soul of Italy. This he declares he will accomplish in the following way "Within a short time I shall ask the parliament to pass a set of laws. Every paragraph of these laws shall be obeyed. No newspaper will be permitted to publish items that a devout, self-respecting man or woman of pure soul would hesitate to read to his children from the first paragraph to the last. Any newspaper that fails to come up to my standard will be destroyed. Any

editor, or writer, who attempts to violate the spirit of this dictum will be severely punished. If a fine and imprisonment fail to bring immoral or seditious editors to their sense my Blackshirts will revive that remedy which cured Socialists of their frothings."

Bolshevism is spreading throughout the world. It has stirred up trouble in China, resulting in revolution and bloodshed. Seeds of hatred to the white man now are sown throughout Asia. "All the libraries in Russia to which the people have any access are being officially visited, and all books of a religious cast or treating the church sympathetically are being destroyed. Also all volumes which treat of the land question, economics, or politics on other than Bolshevik lines are under the ban. Nobody can read any book that is out of tune with the Soviet government, and the government cannot keep step with its own music. The Soviet regime wishes it distinctly understood that it can get along without God—and, indeed, conditions here would indicate that it is doing so."

This from Rev. Dyson Hague, an Episcopalian leader in Canada:

"One of the most amazing signs of the times is this wide-planned and organized revolt against God and his Christ. For, at the bottom of all the Bolshevistic movements is a frenzied hatred of God and a deliberate resolve to cast out the Most High and to tear down Christ and His religion. Deeper than its economic policy, and deeper than its political propaganda, is the violent and organized attempt to destroy the Christian religion and defy God as Ruler of the universe and the Lord of the whole earth. The leaders of the Bolsheviks and the rulers of the Soviet take counsel together 'against the Lord and against His Anointed,' as they say: 'Let us break their bands asunder. Let us cast away their cord from us.' The writer has had sent to him cartoons officially distributed in Russia by the myriad that are simply incredible in their blasphemy and vicious hatred of God. But our King is upon the throne. 'He that sitteth in the Heavens shall laugh: the Lord shall have them in derision.' Any thoughtful man must see, however, that the present situation is a call to awaken out of sleep, to fight the good fight of faith, and to realize that the everlasting war is heading up to that Great Day when He shall come, the Prince of Peace."

Satan is making a determined effort these days to capture the young. One of his latest stratagems is the organization of "The Youth Movement." And the goal is Atheism. It is a form of communism that strikes at the very vitals of all that is worthwhile in life. It has as its ultimate aim the destruction of the Home, the Church and the Government, our three most cherished institutions. And it is making fearful headway in America. "Give us one generation of small children to train to manhood and womanhood, and we will set up the Bolshevik form of the Soviet government in America." Thus said a Boston school teacher. The plan of having young people go out in bands during the summer, spending weeks in the open—boys and girls together, clad only in knickers—is being advocated by certain universities in America even now.

"Better that a young man or young woman never acquire any kind of advance education, than to have their faith shattered, and