

## BRISBANE

## THIS WEEK

The Greatest Deed  
The Richest Man  
8,000 Planes for England  
What! the Whole World?

Universal Service lists the "ten greatest scientific achievements in 1935," and puts first the artificial heart "for keeping organs alive when separated from the body."

This invention, credited to Colonel Lindbergh and the learned Doctor Carrel of Rockefeller Institute, may be important, letting scientists study the progress and nature of cancer and other diseases.

But that is not the year's greatest scientific achievement, although it is gratifying to know that Colonel Lindbergh, while so young, with no more "air" to conquer, has turned his concentrated mind toward science.

Vastly more important than any invention for studying human disease is the new 200-inch telescope lens that will enable men to study the universe more intelligently. That universe is more important than any cancer or gland.

The Nizam of Hyderabad, one of the numerous rulers whom the British keep on their thrones, in return for a servility that delivers their subjects to the British, is about to celebrate his silver jubilee as ruler.

He interests Americans, because he is called absolutely the richest man in the world, richer than Rockefeller, Ford or Mellon.

His income is put at \$50,000,000 a year, which might be possible, although his real fortune bears no interest.

He has 14,000,000 Hindu subjects under his rule, thanks to the toleration of Great Britain, and after England has finished with the 14,000,000, they might well yield an average per year of \$4 to the Nizam, which would give him \$56,000,000 a year of new money.

The British, who realize what airplanes mean, as they study Italy and Ethiopia, have more than 2,000 planes ordered for immediate use, with full equipment and men ready, and, for every plane in the air, England will have three on the ground, ready to replace losses.

Thus Britain's program is 8,000 planes, compared with our retail buying.

Senator Pittman thinks Japan plans to conquer the United States and the rest of the world. He says Japan will "seize the Philippines as soon as the opportunity offers." That is probable; the Philippines are in Asia.

After the Philippines Japan will take Mexico, then the west coast of the United States, according to Senator Pittman, who wants to know whether this country will withdraw within itself as Japan advances, or make a definite stand somewhere.

The west coast would give him a definite answer about that.

There is an aristocracy even in crime. You read, "Hauptmann sings carols in death house."

Five other murderers in the same house sang the carols with him, "Jingle Bells," and also "Hells Night" ("Holy Night"), which must have had a strange sound coming from the throats of murderers.

There are six murderers in the death house, and all sang together, but the other five are merely "also present," no names mentioned.

Their murders were not sufficiently interesting.

"Japanese airplanes bomb Kuyuan in China; many killed"—including civilians and soldiers.

Japanese ordered Chinese soldiers to evacuate the city, dropped bombs when they refused.

What will kind-hearted England and the League of Nations do about that? Not much, Premier Baldwin, justifying the sudden decision to carve up Ethiopia to satisfy Italy, reveals the fact that British ships feared to visit Italian ports during the recent unpleasantness. That brings danger too close.

The country has inflation now, with its 50-cent dollars and double the amount of cash circulating compared with prosperous 1929.

Inflation is not realized, because bankers, their vaults bulging, do not dare lend, not knowing what is good security or what upstanding 100 per cent American will be "flat broke" six months hence.

Mussolini calls those trying to starve his people with sanctions "egotistical, hypocritical," says Italy can go on in spite of them.

Tall Queen Elena, the king's wife, prays at the tomb of the Italian Unknown Soldier "for the triumph of Roman civilization in Africa."

If it is possible to talk or think in the tomb, that Unknown Soldier may have murmured: "So, they are still at it."

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## Water in Snow

The weather bureau says that the amount of water varies widely with different snowfalls, some snow being quite light and dry; others, wet. As a general average, 10 inches of snow may be taken as equivalent to 1 inch of water.

## Wood Duck Brilliant Fowl

The wood duck is the most brilliantly plumaged of all migratory waterfowl, with its chestnut breast, buff sides, iridescent black back and head marked with white.

## News Review of Current Events the World Over

## Great Britain Lining Up the Nations Against Italy—More Trouble in the Orient—Death of Senator Schall.

By EDWARD W. PICKARD

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WAR clouds over Europe were growing denser and blacker during the Christmas holidays when all the Christian world was supposed to be singing "Peace on Earth, good will toward men."

Under the skillful guidance of Anthony Eden, the new British foreign secretary, a solid front against Italy was being built up. There was no present talk of further sanctions against Mussolini, but it is expected added penalties will be put in force late in January. Meanwhile the general military and naval staffs of Great Britain and France concluded conversations, which were declared "satisfactory," meaning that those nations were prepared to stand by each other in case Italy makes what Prime Minister Baldwin called "a mad dog attack."

In the capitals of other members of the League of Nations similar plans were being laid by military and naval attaches.

Turkey came into line with the other presumptive opponents of Italy, but it is reported to have made a suggestion that France doesn't like. This is that it be permitted to fortify the Dardanelles, the strait between Europe and Asiatic Turkey which was demilitarized under the treaty of Lausanne after the World war.

The Turks, also, according to Paris' advice, ask the eventual return of the island of Rhodes in the Aegean sea, which has been under Italian sovereignty since 1923.

Eden is a firm believer in the League of Nations and, though he is moving with caution, is determined to bring Italy to terms through the sanctions provided the other members of the league give the necessary support.

The British government certainly doesn't want war with Italy, but it is fast preparing for armed conflict if that shall prove to be unavoidable.

That Mussolini, too, is getting ready for extreme eventualities was evidenced by orders cancelling all Christmas leaves of all officers and men of the army. The same orders directed the return to their units of the 100,000 army men demobilized in November in order that they might do the needed work on their farms.

The Italian press ceased its attacks on Great Britain, and this was taken to mean that some peace move was on foot or that Mussolini had said his last word in that way and that he and his government were prepared to meet their fate. In Rome the hope is still entertained that Laval will not go all the way with Britain in the policy of extreme sanctions. The French themselves hope that the advent of the wet season in Ethiopia will halt the Italians there before it is necessary to impose the final penalties decreed by the league.

Egypt's cabinet was taking steps to protect the Libyan frontier against invasion by the Italians. The Egyptian leaders are urging the speedy conclusion of a treaty with Great Britain that will give the Egyptians the rights they claim, remove their resentment against England and enable them to line up with the British if war with Italy comes.

How close Europe is coming to a general war is apparent with the revelation that Britain is lining up the countries of the Mediterranean region for support in case she is attacked by Italy. Most of them are believed to have given this pledge. But Bulgaria, a close friend of Italy, would be expected in that case to attack either Greece or Turkey, both allies of Britain, and Rumania has promised the British that she will attack the Bulgarians in that case. This would arouse Hungary to the defense of Bulgaria; Czechoslovakia would be drawn in against Hungary, and Poland probably would take the field against the Czechs. Germany is allied to Poland, and Russia to Czechoslovakia. Such is the realistic view of the situation held by competent observers in European capitals.

OUTER Mongolia is aroused by threats of invasion by the Japanese troops and their puppets, the Manchukuoans. Already the border has been crossed by the latter and five Mongol guards killed and eleven carried off by the raiders. The Mongol government has filed a strong protest, demanding an apology and the return of the captives. Most of this news comes from Moscow and naturally the Russian Soviet government is deeply interested, for this and similar incidents may bring on the long expected war between Russia and Japan.

The Japanese authorities in Tokyo let it be known that they are preparing, through the autonomy government in North China and hoped for cooperation by Chiang Kai-shek, Chinese dictator, to combat the spread of sovietism in China. In line with this is the proclamation of Prince Teh, Mongolian ruler, declaring the independence of the western part of Inner Mongolia, a vast territory with a population of two million pastoralists and rich mineral resources.

Chinese students continued their riotous demonstrations against North China autonomy, demanding that it be stopped by armed force. In Shanghai thousands of them took possession of the railway terminal, demanding free transportation to Nanking to present their protests to the central government. Chiang Kai-shek invited their leaders to confer with him on January 15.

The tenseness in China was increased by the assassination in Shanghai of Tang Yu-jen, vice minister of railways and known as pro-Japanese.

This and other anti-Japanese demonstrations led to the declaring of martial law in Shanghai and Nanking.

LIBERTY league has put out a 12-point program which it thinks the incoming congress should follow for the sake of the country. It is designed "to put the government's house in order."

In its statement the league accuses the New Deal of "doing violence" to the Constitution and charges the Roosevelt administration with "gigantic waste" in handling relief funds, "promoting pet theories of monetary cranks," responding to "socialistic influences" in competing with private industry, and capitalizing on the nation's emergency to make centralization of power in the federal government a permanent policy.

Continued deficit financing will destroy government credit and may lead to chaos and dictatorship, the league warned in demanding a balanced budget and repeal of tax laws aimed at "redistribution of wealth."

Emphasizing adherence to the Constitution will be the vital issue in next year's election campaign, the league called upon congress to defeat two "threatened" amendments which would bring about "a virtual change in our form of government." These proposals would create an "unhindered dictatorship," the league declared, by extending federal authority "to permit complete regimentation of industry and agriculture" and by taking away the Supreme court's power to declare laws unconstitutional.

SENATOR THOMAS D. SCHALL of Minnesota, who was struck by an automobile as he was being conducted across the highway near his residence in Maryland, succumbed to his injuries. The blind statesman had been one of the bitterest opponents of the New Deal and President Roosevelt. He had started his campaign for re-election, and Gov. Floyd Olson of Minnesota had announced he also would seek the nomination for Schall's seat. The governor said after the senator's death that he would soon appoint his successor; that he had no intention of resigning in order to be himself named to fill Schall's place.

Mr. Schall, who was born in 1878 in Michigan, lost his sight in an accident after he had been practicing law in Minnesota four years. He continued his work, and served six terms in the house of representatives before he was elected to the senate in 1924.

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT declared himself satisfied with the progress made by Harold Ickes and Harry Hopkins in carrying out the relief program. He said that the Works Progress administration had come within 20,000 of reaching its goal of 3,500,000 men at work, and that 77 per cent of public works projects were under way. By January 15, he predicted, PWA will be functioning 100 per cent.

Mr. Roosevelt repeated that the government assumed no responsibility for those not hired under the program. He had asked congress for four billions last January, he said, based upon an estimate that there were 3,500,000 needy men who could work. He got the four billions and the 3,500,000 have been put to work, he said. The remaining unemployed must be cared for by "states, municipalities, counties, and private charity," he added.

When reporters said that some estimates placed the total of unemployed at 11,000,000, the President held that it was often difficult to say whether a person should be classed as unemployed. He cited the case of people who have resources, but desire part-time employment for supplemental income.

He also said, in discussing unemployment further, that 5,000,000 persons had found employment since the spring of 1933 in industries which report such statistics.

UNEXPECTEDLY early decision as to the validity of the Guffey coal act was assured when the Supreme court agreed to pass on the constitutionality of the law without waiting for a ruling by the Federal Court of Appeals. Both the government and Kentucky soft coal producers had asked the Supreme court for this "short cut."

The labor relations board asked the Philadelphia Circuit Court of Appeals to help speed the Wagner labor disputes act to the Supreme court for a final test of its constitutionality.

REPEATED threats of kidnapping and even murder for their little son have driven Col. and Mrs. Charles A. Lindbergh from the United States. They have sailed with their boy, Jon, for England, and plan to establish a residence there, though they will not give up their American citizenship. Where they will live has not been revealed to even their closest friends. It is believed the colonel will not sever his relations with the two air transport companies for which he is a technical adviser but that his active work for them will cease.

HARVARD university received a handsome Christmas present from Thomas W. Lamont, one of the partners in J. P. Morgan & Co. It was \$500,000 for the establishment of a new chair in political economy, one of the "professorships" to be created by gifts from alumni in recognition of the university's three-hundredth anniversary that comes in 1938.

WHEN the Supreme court passes on the constitutionality of the Tennessee Valley act, its opinion will not be unanimous, is the prediction of those who were present during the oral arguments. The case was taken up to the highest tribunal by fourteen preferred stockholders of the Alabama Power company.

Durfee arguments by Forney Johnson, Birmingham, Ala., attorney for the stockholders, and by John Lord O'Brien, New York attorney, for TVA, justices shot many questions at the lawyers.

Justice McReynolds, known as a "conservative," appeared to challenge the TVA lawyer to defend the right of the government to sell surplus power produced by Wilson dam at Muscle Shoals.

On the other hand, Justices Brandeis and Stone, who are known as "liberals," inquired into the right of minority stockholders of the Alabama Power company to bring the suit which led to the Supreme court test. The stockholders sought to enjoin performance of a contract under which the company was to sell lines to TVA for transmission of power.

FEDERAL Judge Merrill E. Otis at Kansas City has held unconstitutional the Wagner labor dispute act which gives employees the right to organize and bargain collectively. The judge granted the Majestic Fl-r mills of Aurora, Mo., a temporary injunction against a National Labor board complaint which cited it for alleged refusal to bargain concerning a wage and hour agreement with a union of its employees.

TWO grand juries, a house committee and an army court martial have been investigating lobbying at the War department for two years. The climax came with the indictment in Washington of a dismissed army officer, a former member of congress, and two alleged lobbyists on charges of conspiracy to defraud the government.

Those named were former Brig. Gen. Alexander E. Williams, one time acting quartermaster general of the army, who was convicted by a military court last spring of accepting an improper loan and ordered dismissed from the service; Thomas Jefferson Ryan, lawyer and former representative from New York, and the well known Silverman brothers, Joseph, Jr., and Nathan, surplus army goods dealers.

The four men were charged with conspiring to prevent the house military affairs committee from questioning Frank E. Speicher, "mystery witness" of the long inquiry by hiding him out in New York city while federal agents were hunting him throughout the nation.

GOVERNMENT ownership of America's railroads is the objective in a campaign which has been started by the Railway Labor Executives' association. Describing the carriers as "chips in a financial poker game," the executives, in a circular to members of congress, ask for government ownership as "the only way out of the morass in which the roads have been placed by the bankers."

The financial practices, the circular said, "endanger the equities in the roads of insurance companies, educational institutions, mutual savings banks, philanthropic institutions, and last but not least, the individual investor who, in many instances, has his all in the securities of railroads."

"Banker control, with its constant demand for rake-offs," the circular continued, "has caused and causes continuous loss of positions by employees—some hundreds of thousands before 1929 and hundreds of thousands since the depression, all of which had its part in bringing on the depression and intensifying that depression."

Senator Wheeler of Montana introduced a resolution for government ownership in the last session but did not ask for immediate consideration of the measure.

IF WISCONSIN Republicans wish to make Senator Borah their candidate for the Presidential nomination, it is all right with the veteran from Idaho.

State Senator P. E. Nelson of Maple, Wis., and former State Senator Bernard Gettelman of Milwaukee called on Mr. Borah in Washington and asked permission to circulate nominating petitions for him in their state. This was granted.

Mr. Borah told reporters that Nelson and Gettelman had suggested a campaign for "a delegation representing the liberal forces in the party out there, and in my name." He had agreed, he said, to "go along with them."

Later Mr. Borah issued this statement: "My primary objective is a convention of liberal delegates which will elect a liberal platform and name a liberal candidate. To that end I shall devote my efforts. If in any state or district the liberal forces think that it will help the liberal cause to pledge delegates to me, I shall co-operate fully with that plan. If, however, it is thought better to pledge the delegates to some other liberal, I shall co-operate just as fully. In other words, inflexible as to the objective, flexible as to the tactics."

"As I see the political situation in this country, a man would be seeking political immolation to take a nomination upon any other than a liberal platform. So the first thing to do is to get a convention committed to liberal principles. So far as my efforts count, I am not going to permit personal matters, either my own or those of others, to interfere with the main purpose."

CONTRACTS have been awarded for 103 new bombing planes for the army air corps. The Douglas Aircraft company, Inc., of Santa Monica, Calif., was given an order for 90 all-metal, low wing, twin-engine monoplane, costing a total of \$6,498,000.

Thirteen giant four-motored "sky cruisers" were bought from the Boeing company of Seattle, Wash. The price for the Boeing craft was not given in the announcement by Harry H. Woodcock, assistant secretary of war.

## Washington Digest

National Topics Interpreted By WILLIAM BRUCKART

## Spending Must Stop

Washington.—There has been much discussion lately concerning the liquidation of the dozens of New Deal emergency agencies. It is a discussion that is timely because, first, Mr. Roosevelt in his plans for the forthcoming government budget contemplates a shrinkage in the vast outlays represented in the emergency agencies, and second, it is a matter of political import. Whether Mr. Roosevelt is re-elected or whether there should be a Republican succeed him in the White House in January, 1937, somebody must clean up the wreckage of the alphabetical soup—which is what all of these various agencies eventually must become. They cannot go on; an end must be had to the expenditures and that will conclude the operations of these agencies and, further, something in the way of permanency for agencies that may be kept must be worked out.

It is one of the real problems of government. Those who have been in Washington any length of time recognize that it is much easier to establish a government bureau and populate it with bureaucrats of a political hue than it is to put an end to the agency and send the political patronage boys back home. It is really an old story of observers here and, I believe, all of them recognize how difficult it is not dangerous it is going to be to dynamite the alphabetical agencies out of existence.

Some of them undoubtedly have served and are serving a useful purpose. Undoubtedly, some of them were needed long before Mr. Roosevelt brought his New Deal to Washington. Instead of that fact making the wrecking job easier, it makes the job more difficult. It is very hard to convince plum pickers that their job is a temporary one, even though they were so informed when they were appointed. It is more difficult to convince that type of individual that their agency is not all-important or that it is of less consequence than a neighboring agency bearing another set of alphabetical letters.

In addition, the plum pickers have their patronage backers at the capital. The representatives and senators interested in building up their own political machines back home naturally put people in the political jobs who will be most helpful in assisting that particular representative or senator to be re-elected. Thus, it becomes rather obvious that even if Mr. Roosevelt seriously tries to liquidate the various alphabetical bureaus, boards, commissions and administrations, he has a man-sized task on his hands. If he chance a Republican should be elected, Mr. Roosevelt retired to private life, he too, will find himself criticized, jeered and threatened when he seeks to squeeze the water out of this structure known as government which was expanded so much in Mr. Roosevelt's plans to meet the emergency.

Frankly, I believe it will take the full four years of the next President's term to unseat all of the excess job holders and eliminate from the government all of the surplus alphabetical agencies.

In the very nature of things it cannot be done more quickly. The answer lies in the fact that these agencies embark upon ambitious programs that cannot be halted. The government becomes committed to certain propositions and, except in war time, most of them must be executed. So, however you examine the situation, Uncle Sam is well hooked.

To illustrate how difficult is the job of getting rid of a government agency after it is once established, one need not go further than the late NRA. Six or seven months have elapsed since the Supreme court unanimously clipped the wings of the famed Blue Eagle. That decision did the work of wrecking NRA as completely as a bombshell can wreck a boat when a direct hit is scored. But, whether you realize it or not, we still have in Washington an NRA organization of almost 2,500 employees. It is true that number is probably only about one-fourth of the total number on the NRA pay roll when General "Crack-Down" Johnson was at the helm and guiding the flight of the Blue Eagle but it was assumed at least that the Supreme court decision made payments for the NRA pay roll illegal at the same time. However, it has happened that the administration has found money some place with which to pay this regiment of employees who, as far as most observers in Washington can ascertain, have very little constructive work to do.

The organization has no official status except such as is given it by Mr. Roosevelt's various executive orders. It has no authority. Anything it does or says has no more force than a zephyr. Yet thousands of dollars are being paid its workers on the first and fifteenth of every month—and there is no sign that these payments will be ended soon.

For another example let us go back to the war days. In order to successfully prosecute America's part in the World war, the government took over and operated the railroads. A gigantic organization was built up here in Washington and representatives of the railroad administration were scattered far and wide throughout the country. Commitments were made that continue even to this day. Credit in the form of government loans was extended to the rail lines and several hundred million dollars of that amount remains uncollected to this day. And with all, after 18 years we still have a railroad administration operating in Washington at government expense.

Another wartime agency about which little is heard but which still is in existence is the War Finance corporation. It floated bonds and made loans

to private interests and those commitments have forced retention of a skeleton organization that probably must be continued for several years yet before the job of liquidation is complete. One could go on and on in illustrating how a government agency becomes a parasite on the government structure to remain, long after its usefulness has ceased, a burden on the taxpayers. It is hardly any wonder then with the knowledge of what has happened in the case of other governmental agencies that there is a question of how long it will be before the present emergency alphabet can be eliminated. It is likewise a matter of concern what the total cost is going to be before the mess is finally eradicated.

We have had evidence lately of how efforts are initiated to maintain these agencies even when they are legally dead.

Thumbs Down on NRA Recently in Washington there was a held a much ballyhooed meeting to which some three thousand representatives of business interests were invited. It was called by George L. Berry, the top man in what is left of the NRA structure. The purpose was to find out what business wanted in the way of a revived NRA. Business did not want NRA revived and the meeting turned out to be a genuine flop. There was nothing like three thousand representatives in attendance and the meeting itself gave a good many persons the impression of being staged for the benefit of the American Federation of Labor, to which the old NRA catered regularly.

Mr. Berry, until lately the head of one of the large union labor organizations, did not convince business that it needed more governmental interference. Indeed, if business went away convinced of anything beyond the fact that Mr. Berry's meeting was a flop, it left Washington with a deep feeling that it did not want NRA in any form nor did it want any other governmental agency messing around with its efforts to get back on its feet.

The circumstance illustrates better than anything I know how parasitic agencies in the government seek to perpetuate themselves. One must realize in considering such a condition that all of those employees obviously want to keep their jobs. In addition, there are those officials who have axes to grind. They want to maintain the agency longer. Then there are the political elements to be considered. When they are all coupled together, it does not take the aid of a field glass to see that the pressure is rather strong.

In the case of the attempted revival of NRA, the political factor is important. Mr. Roosevelt said, it will be remembered, that when NRA was organized it must be regarded as something of an experiment and that if the experiment failed to work, he would be the first to say so. He has not made that announcement yet, for it is considered, if he admitted that the NRA experiment failed to work he would be admitting defeat for one of his earlier pet projects right in the face of a Presidential campaign. Politicians do not like to make admissions of this kind.

It will be recalled as well that after the Supreme court held the business codes of NRA to be unconstitutional and the business codes were the vitals of the NRA structure, there was much pressure exerted on congress from the White House for reconstruction of some sort of a program to succeed NRA. Business did not want it any more then than it does now and it fought back while the legislation was pending. The result was that congress passed a law permitting lines of commerce and industry to organize and frame their own voluntary codes.

Jurisdiction of these codes was placed in the Federal Trade commission. That agency was supposed to work in co-operation with business and to exercise a judicial function in determining when the codes were properly within existing laws against monopoly.

The Trade commission in the last year has blossomed forth as a rather sound agency in its consultations with business and, I believe, merits the respect which business generally has for it. But with all of that respect and the knowledge that the Trade commission tries to be fair, only five lines of industry have presented codes of fair practice for commission approval. To the bystanders, that would seem to be conclusive proof that the country's business is thoroughly "fed up" on policies and programs requiring it to deal with the government. It seems paradoxical then that Mr. Berry and his crew, acting even with the support of Mr. Roosevelt, should attempt to perpetuate a thoroughly discredited agency like the NRA.

The details of the futile attempt to breathe life back into the Blue Eagle have been related at this length to show what the future holds in the way of barnacles on our structure of government. If we have many more the result is liable to be a cancer and a cancer thus far has proved incurable.

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Your Pajamas Are Indian When we go to bed in pajamas, we are wearing the sort of clothing that is worn as ordinary daily dress by vast numbers of the natives of India. "Pajama" is the name in that country, and long ago British people in India found that this native style of clothing was best for night wear in hot climates. So they started to wear "pajamas," and when they came home to England they introduced the sleeping suits here, with the name slightly altered.—Pearson's Weekly.

## IMPROVED UNIFORM INTERNATIONAL SUNDAY SCHOOL Lesson

By REV. F. R. FITZWATER, D. D., Member of Faculty, Moody Bible Institute of Chicago, Ill.

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## Lesson for January 5

## MARY'S SONG OF PRAISE

LESSON TEXT—Luke 1:46-55.

GOLDEN TEXT—My soul doth magnify the Lord, and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Savior, Luke 1:47. PRIMARY TOPIC—Why Mary Sang. JUNIOR TOPIC—Why Mary Sang. INTERMEDIATE AND SENIOR TOPIC—What Our Mothers Have Done for Us. YOUNG PEOPLE AND ADULT TOPIC—A Mother's Vision and Influence.

Mary was a Jewish maid of the town of Nazareth. The first information we have of her is that she was engaged to be married to Joseph, a carpenter of the same village. It seems that the custom among the Jews was for betrothal to take place a year before marriage.

1. The Occasion of (Luke 1:26, 27). During this interval of betrothal, God sent the angel Gabriel to announce to Mary that she was to be the mother of Jesus. Isahiah, more than 700 years before, prophesied that a virgin would give birth to a son, whose name should be called Immanuel, "God with us" (Isa. 7:14). Though at first perplexed, she accepted the announcement with remarkable courage and devotion. To be told that she was to be a mother was nothing startling, for this was the normal desire of every married Jewish woman. Under the circumstances, she accepted motherhood at a tremendous cost. She was conscious of her virgin purity. She knew that to become a mother under such circumstances would expose her to suspicion and shame (John 8:41).

2. Mary's response (v. 38). Her faith was such that she responded with remarkable courage. She said, "Behold the handmaid of the Lord; be it unto me according to thy word." She accepted motherhood under these circumstances as God's command. It was made clear to her that the begetting was by the Holy Ghost and that the Most High would embody himself with humanity divinely begotten and that the resultant thing born would be holy and called the Son of God.

3. She visits Elisabeth (vv. 39-45). In her embarrassment she set out on a visit to an elderly kinswoman called Elisabeth. Having sought the sympathy and encouragement of her friend, her triumphant faith carried her beyond the misunderstanding, the scorn and shame which awaited her, and caused her soul to burst out in the most wonderful song of praise. This is called the "Magnificat" because of the first word in the Latin version, "My soul doth magnify the Lord." As pointed out by another, three features of her character stand out in this song.

a. Her purity of heart. Only a pure heart rejoices when God has come near. b. Her humility. She forgot herself and gave her heart to God's praises. c. Her unselfishness. She did not primarily think of the undying honor which through the ages should be attached to her, but the blessedness which would come on future generations through her.

11. The Content of Her Song (vv. 46-55). 1. For salvation (vv. 46-49). It was salvation for herself and others. There is no suggestion whatever in this song that she thought of herself as the mother of God. She praised God for the high distinction of being the channel through which the eternal Son of God was to make contact with the race and save it. This high distinction wrought humility in her soul. She knew that God was consummating his redemptive purpose through her.

2. For the divine character (vv. 49, 50). She praised God that he had almighty power, that he was absolutely holy and abundant in mercy. 3. For what the Savior shall accomplish (vv. 51, 52).

a. He was to scatter the rebellious, the unbelieving, and the proud. Though he is exceedingly merciful and patient, the time is coming when all who reject him shall be scattered. b. He was to exalt the lowly. How wonderfully this has been accomplished through the centuries. Those who turn from sin and exercise faith in Jesus Christ are lifted up to places of honorable recognition.

c. He filled the hungry. It is through Jesus Christ that good is gained for the hungry. Indeed, all blessings come through him. d. He sent the rich away empty. By the rich no doubt is meant those who have arrogated to themselves importance because of the possessions which he gave them.

4. For God's faithfulness (vv. 53-55). His faithfulness is shown in keeping his promises. That which was about to be realized was the fulfillment of the covenant promise made in Eden and perpetuated through Abraham and his descendants.

Pity and forbearance, and long-sufferance, and passing the gentlest sentence, are as certainly our duty, and owing to every person that does offend and can repent, as calling to account can be owing to the law; and he that does not so is an unjust person.—Jeremy Taylor.

What Religion Does The paramount virtue of religion is that it has lighted up morality; that it has supplied the emotion and inspiration needful for carrying the sage along the narrow way perfectly, for carrying the ordinary man along it at all.—Matthew Arnold.

The Best Prayer Neither days nor lives can be made holy by doing nothing in them; the best prayer at the beginning of the day is that we may not lose its moments; the best grace before a meal, the consciousness that we have just earned our dinner.—Ruskin.