

WORLD DOMINION

The World Dominion Movement advocates informed continuous co-ordinated evangelism to reach everyone at home and abroad. Its basis is belief in the Deity and Atoning Death of the Lord Jesus Christ, the World's Only Saviour, and in the Final Authority of Holy Scripture.

Editor: THOMAS COCHRANE.

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NOTES ON CONTRIBUTORS

REV. ALEXANDER McLEISH, who was for many years a missionary in India with the Church of Scotland, is Survey Editor of the World Dominion Press.

REV. JOSEPH J. COOKSEY has had over thirty years' experience as a missionary, part of which time was spent in North Africa. He is the author of *The Land of the Vanished Church*, etc.

DR. T. A. LAMBIE, Field Director of the Sudan Interior Mission, has worked as a medical missionary in Abyssinia since 1919. He has just returned to that country after a furlough in England.

DR. K. J. JAROSZEWICZ is the leader of a growing indigenous evangelical movement in Poland known as the Union of Churches of Christ.

REV. GUIDO R. MIEGGE has been Secretary of the American Waldensian Aid Society, and will shortly take up his new appointment as Agent of the British and Foreign Bible Society in Rome.

MR. GILBERT DAWSON is the General Secretary of the Sudan United Mission, and has just returned from an extensive tour of Africa.

REV. W. KENDALL GALE, M.A., of the London Missionary Society, has died since the last issue of WORLD DOMINION. He had been engaged in pioneer work and successful church planting in Madagascar since 1908.

REV. MAURICE LEENHARDT, who is now pastor of an evangelical church in Paris, was for many years a missionary in New Caledonia.

MR. JAMES HALDANE has worked since 1912 as a missionary in North Africa with the Southern Morocco Mission.

MR. KENNETH G. GRUBB, Director of Surveys for Latin America for the World Dominion Press, has recently returned from a six months' visit to Central America.

REV. T. CULLEN YOUNG is the Deputy Secretary of the United Society for Christian Literature.

REV. P. K. HORAN was a Roman Catholic and a Sinn Feiner. After his conversion he studied theology in Irish and English colleges and is now a minister of the Gospel in the Church of England.

Is there to be a Racial Conflict ?

The tea-house, where a traveller may put down his burden, rest himself on a roughly constructed trestle or stool and sip a basin of hot, weak wild mountain tea, has been for ages a familiar feature of Chinese village life. It is now and has always been a gossip shop of the district.

It was in one of these inns, on a mountain side, that recently a traveller, tired after a long trail over the passes, suddenly lost his weariness as he listened with unusual alertness to the reading, by a young Chinese of the student class, of an article in the 18th April issue of the well-known and well-edited Tientsin newspaper, *Ta Kung Pao*.

Evidently the writer of the article was dealing with a subject which, not long ago, would have been unfamiliar to an ordinary inland audience. Now, because it concerned a powerful near neighbour, 'the threat of Japan's advance to the West, and particularly to East Africa' became a question in which all were interested.

The young fellow's audience at first was meagre enough, but gradually as coolies and farmers on their journey halted for a rest, the tables of the inn filled up, and, with an interjection of enquiry or protest here and there, the reader was allowed to proceed without interruption.

It is worth noting that, in spite of the appalling disasters and unrest through which China has been passing during recent years, there is appearing in many places an atmosphere of enquiry and expectancy, which, from an old China hand point of view, is good to see. In some measure this is due to a new type of newspaper with world-wide interests which is capturing the imagination of intellectuals, and, more slowly, is penetrating into the rural districts.

It may be of interest to Western readers to know the substance of the article.

'**E**AST AFRICA, which does not often appear in the newspapers in ordinary times, has been prominent since the disagreement broke out between Italy and Abyssinia. This question is closely related to the threat of Japanese advance to the West. It is said that the Executive Council of the League will dissuade these two countries and settle their dispute by arbitration. It is worth while discussing the relation between this question and Japan in order to show the beginning of conflict between two imperialisms, white and yellow.

'We should like first to give an outline showing the way in which Japan has been extending her power. As Japan only became strong a few decades ago, she was very backward in her colonial enterprise, as compared with Britain. But since the Great War she has moved forward quickly, and now her position is quite different. To-day the colonial power of Japan reaches the continent of Russia

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and Manchuria in the north, Australia and New Zealand in the south, Brazil and Argentina in South America in the east, and Afghanistan and East Africa in the west. Furthermore the Philippine Islands, the Sandwich Islands, the Dutch East Indies, Siam and Annam all seem to come within the sphere of Japanese influence. There is a proverb, "A newborn calf is more violent than a tiger," which would represent modern Japan. That is why Signor Mussolini referred to the "Yellow Peril." The real meaning of Japanese imperialism and its progress is the most interesting question for people who study international relationships.

' Let us open the atlas : we cannot find one square inch of earth without any sovereignty. A country like Japan, which has come late into the colonial field and wishes to realize her wide ambition, cannot do anything but seize by force. Look at the colonial powers on the Pacific. The most important countries are Great Britain, the United States, France and Holland. America has recognized that the Philippines will be independent in ten years. It seems that the United States does not wish to extend her power in the Pacific. France, overruling Annam, is on good terms with Japan ; there is no danger there. The Netherlands Indies have long been marked down by Japan for they form the richest district among the South Sea Islands, especially in oil production. But Holland is quite friendly to Japan. Recently the two countries renewed a commercial treaty to solidify their friendship. So these three countries, America, France and Holland would not have any conflict with Japan. Even though there may be some minor difficulties there would be nothing serious.

' Now let us turn to Great Britain. The great Empire, which has the largest investment in East Asia, does not wish anyone to enter into the gates of China and India. But Japan has thrust her way into the sphere of British interest and the commercial treaty between Japan and India last year proves how far she has succeeded. Recently the British have paid great attention and put much energy into increasing the navy and air forces in Hongkong and

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Singapore in order to protect Australia in the south and India in the east, and to maintain their great interest in China. What they have done is splendid, but would Japan stop her design of advancing to the west? No! Even if Great Britain were to give up her ambition in the Far East and satisfy herself by protecting only Australia and India, would Japan agree with her? No! How can we know this? We have the tangible evidence of what Japan has done in Abyssinia recently.

‘Everyone knows that Germany and Italy have designs of advance in the East but they do not pay attention to the advance of Japan to the West. We shall be greatly astonished when we examine the facts clearly. What are the steps in this advance of Japan to the West? First she makes friends with Siam and intrigues with the East Indies in order that she may cut the Canal of Kra to smash the excellent position and plan of Singapore. Secondly she tries to be friendly with Afghanistan in order to occupy the roof of the world to compete with Great Britain and Russia in Central Asia. Thirdly she helps Abyssinia in order to get on the shore of the Red Sea, the gate of Asia and Europe. She goes on with these proceedings just as a player who, hoping to win the game of chess, scatters many chessmen which seem unnecessary before he reaches his real objective. To sum up, all these facts are worthy of discussion by people who are examining the policy of Japan, and the recent relations between Japan and Abyssinia should be the tangible evidence of what we have said.

‘It is quite new that Japan has spread her economic power to Abyssinia. The Year Book for 1931 says that India took about 57 per cent. of Abyssinian imports, and Japan had only 12 per cent., but to-day 80 per cent. of the cotton imported comes from Japan. We can see what a heavy blow to British trade this is. In the autumn of 1933, the Minister of Diplomatic Affairs of Abyssinia declared that 400 hectares of ground would be leased to the Japanese free of rent for cotton growing. In the treaty between Japan and Abyssinia, Japan obtained the right to rent ground for growing cotton and coffee trees. Four years

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ago, the Japanese-Abyssinia Company gained the privilege of renting 650,000 hectares of ground in Abyssinia, paying only 10 per cent. of the price of the crops grown on this land. In March, 1934, these two countries concluded an emigration treaty and both Governments encouraged mixed marriages between their people. Furthermore, Abyssinia gave the highest favour to Japanese commerce by decreasing the duty on Japanese goods. All these things have greatly distressed Italy and Great Britain. Besides her economic policy, Japan has been aiding Abyssinia a great deal politically in such ways as helping her to organize and train new troops, selling to her recently constructed tanks and aeroplanes, sending her military and engineering experts, and supplying her with ammunitions.

The Abyssinians have made overtures to the European nations but they were not cordially received because of race prejudice. Now both the Japanese and the Abyssinians belong to the coloured races, between them friendship rises quickly and intimately. In the eyes of Europeans it is natural that it should be thought of as the threat of the 'Yellow Peril.'

'The British do not like Japan's advance to the West to extend her power in the rear of India, so they are willing to help Italy to settle her authority in East Africa. On the other hand, because of the battle in Arabia in 1934, when Hejaz defeated Yemen, all the power of Italy in Arabia was swept away. Italy has to make up for this by strengthening her power in East Africa. The resulting success or failure of these two new imperialisms standing opposite in the East and West should be the measure of the power of the yellow and white races.

'It is impossible to exaggerate the importance of this. It really is a vital question for the whole world.

'For our part, we do not agree with any imperialism, white or yellow. We are certain that the result of competition and force will only be destruction. We feel that to make the whole world one family with the real spirit of peace and altruism ought to be the ideal and purpose of all people. But the tragedy is that this is not in the minds of

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those who are obsessed with the thought of material advantage and prosperity.'

The closing paragraph of the above summary from this important Chinese paper, is a remarkable tribute to the essential Christian spirit of its editor. It recalls Mr. Lansbury's appeal in *The Times* for a Truce of God. But that this spirit has not prevailed in these terrible and troubled times measures the task of the Christian Church.

Cheerful News

The following extracts from a letter from Shantung makes cheering reading. Among many changes and conflicting opinions Christian missionaries work quietly on at their great task:

'One of the women evangelists who had been out doing a little follow-up work told me a remarkable story some little time ago. A few years ago, a young lad was brought into hospital with a gunshot wound of the thigh and a fractured femur. He was in hospital for about three months and went out very fit. We had lost sight of him since then. This evangelist was invited to his home and heard his story. He had a pretty rough time of it when he returned home with the unforgettable story of Jesus on his lips, but he persisted in talking about Him, no matter what ill treatment was meted out to him. He was publicly baptized into the Church when he reached, I think, his thirteenth birthday, and that was but the beginning of an authentic and aggressive witness to an experience that he had had in hospital. The end of the story is this, his father and mother and seven other members of his family are now members of the Church and active Christians. You can't say what the ultimate outcome of an active faith like that will be!'

Another missionary writes: 'A few days ago a letter came from a former postmaster who left C—— about a year ago for C—— on the north-east coast of Shantung. Here is an extract: ". . . Praise God for His grace and mercy. In His light I can see light, and walk in the light. To glorify Him, my wife and I arranged a Christmas party last Christmas Day, when some thirty members of postal staff were invited to hear the Rev. Liu's powerful speech. Since then I have opened a Bible Class at our house every Saturday evening, and the number of attendants on each occasion was between fifteen and twenty. Thank the God of Glory for His mighty power, as two of our men have recently been baptized.'"