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hours of meditation. I go upstairs to my room and sit down at the table by the window and think about the Resurrection, then I get my big Bible out and read the book of Tobit, the gentle evening breezes coming through the open window slightly lift the heavy pages. I will go out for a walk through Cookham churchyard. I will walk along the path that runs under the hedge. I do so, and pause to look at a tombstone which rises out of the midst of a small privet hedge which grows over the grave and is railed around with iron railings. I return to our house and put it down on paper. I go to supper, not over-satisfied with the evening's thought, but I know that to-morrow will see the light, to-morrow 'in my flesh I shall see God' After two or three hours' reading I blow out the candle, and whisper a word to myself, 'to-morrow' I say and fall asleep I do not remember the exact moment of waking up, any more than I know when sleep comes, but although the moment of waking is not known, yet the moment when you become aware that it is morning; when you say 'it's morning' is the most wide awake moment of the day. How everything seems fresh and to belong definitely to the morning. . . . I go and call Gil in the little bedroom. I go downstairs and out into the street and call a friend; we all go down to Odney weir for a bathe and swim. I feel fresh, awake, and alive; this is the time for visitation I swim right in the pathway of the sunlight; I go home thinking of the beautiful wholeness of the day. During the morning I am visited and walk about in that visitation. Now at this time everything seems more definite and to put a new meaning and freshness you never noticed. In the afternoon I set out my work and begin the picture. I leave off at dusk feeling delighted with the spiritual work I have done."

This is probably a description of the beginning of Spencer's most famous picture, *The Resurrection*, finished only in 1926 and now in the Tate Gallery, London. *The Resurrection* is a tumultuous canvas of crowded graves in a country churchyard, which are yielding up their dead. The naked figure of the artist himself rises from a tomb in the centre of the picture, and behind him, across the Thames, a boat is shown bringing souls from the land of death to the banks of life.

Change of Direction

And between the painting of the Resurrection and the idyllic simple life which produced a *Nativity*, *Elizabeth and Zacharias*, the *Apple Gatherers* and many Berkshire landscapes, the first world war imposed itself. Spencer was sent out East, and in Macedonia the simple life became a distant myth. He did not have any opportunity to paint while there, but his visual memory stored impressions, and the direction of his life was altered. When he returned to Cookham he was not the single-minded, sure, and instinctive artist he used to be. The confusion of the times invaded him, and his work took on a new restlessness and a tension which is not yet relaxed.

Directly from the war years resulted the great series of Burghclere murals called *The Resurrection of Soldiers*. Here, on the walls of a memorial chapel, Spencer has portrayed war, the horror and the glory and also the muddle and the boredom of it. Over the altar is his masterpiece, the magnificent vision of the soldiers, who grasping the cross,

know in the fullness of revelation that through death and suffering they have triumphed.

Between the wars Spencer has been prolific. His flower studies and his landscapes, still in the main of Cookham, have piled up. But a new medievalism has emerged from his work. A spirit of the gargoyle is haunting the artist of Sunflower and Dog Worship, The Adoration of Old Men and The Adoration of Young Girls. The angelic vision of the early years has changed, and the evil, cruelty, and perversity that is evident in our times could not but affect such a perceptive imagination.

During the last world war Spencer was commissioned to paint ship-building on the Clyde. He took himself to the yards, lived with the men, became as one of them, shared their work, and in several brilliantly decorative panels he has portrayed the workers as beetle-like figures in an underworld of their own. Himself, he has painted into the scene sitting bewildered among the riveters like the child he still is in a world that he finds, day-by-day, less comprehensible.

SHORTWAVE HIGHLIGHTS

Broadcasts from Canada

REGULAR shortwave broadcasts to Australia and New Zealand by the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation were inaugurated on Monday last and will in future be heard on Sunday evenings. The first of the regular broadcasts is scheduled for July 6. These programmes may be heard from 7.45 until 9.0 p.m. and the stations are CHOL (11.72 mc/s., 25.60 metres), and CHLS (9.61, 31.23).

In 1942 the CBC began building an international shortwave service. Broadcasts of world news, home news and programmes designed for the entertainment of Canadian troops became a daily feature. To-day Canada still broadcasts news and feature programmes to the continent in most of the European languages, as well as messages to the relatives of P.O.W.'s still in Canada. Recently transmissions began to the Caribbean and Latin America and these have been well received. The transmitters are at Sackville, New Brunswick, which is relatively close to the main cities and as far as possible from the north magnetic pole, which is the centre of a zone having high absorption to radio waves.

Special DX Broadcast from Sweden: This Saturday, July 5, the Swedish Broadcasting Corporation, Stockholm, will dedicate an hour broadcast in English to the New Zealand DX Club. This broadcast will be on 10.780 mc/s., 28.78 metres, and 6.06 mc/s., 49.59 metres, and will be heard from 7.0 a.m. to 8.0 a.m. The programme will include music and talks on Sweden and a talk on the New Zealand DX Club and New Zealand. Reports on reception, etc., may be sent in to the New Zealand DX Club Inc., 212, Earn Street, Invercargill.

NATIONAL FILM UNIT

THE rough and dangerous New Zealand coast makes it necessary to maintain a number of lighthouses. How this work is carried out by the lighthouse maintenance division of the Marine Department is shown in the National Film Unit's Weekly Review No. 305, to be released on July 4.

Another great £100 ESSAY COMPETITION this time for



BOYS & GIRLS 12 and under 16 years

Think what you could do with £100! And you have as much chance of winning as anyone. A 100-word essay on "What I like about Self Help shops" can win you

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| 1ST PRIZE . . . | £100 |
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How you can win £100 by writing 100 words

You know the Self Help shops . . . their bright windows, their clean interiors, the cheerful, helpful service — and their low prices. Pay a special visit to your Self Help shop and look around you again. Note the clearly-marked prices, and the weekly specials. Ask about the Xmas Club. Get your

copy of the Adventure Club Magazine. Then write down in a 100-word essay all the things you like about Self Help. It's as simple as that. You can win as easily as the next one. Your Self Help shop will give you a copy of the conditions of the competition. But hurry, for your entry must be in before the end of the month.

CONDITIONS

1. Each entrant to submit an essay not exceeding 100 words on the subject "What I like about Self Help shops".
2. The competitor's name and address in block letters must appear on the entry.
3. Each entry must be signed by a parent, guardian or school teacher and this signature will be accepted as evidence that the essay is the child's unaided work and that the entrant is 12 years old but under 16 years on July 31st, 1947.
4. Envelopes must be marked "JULY COMPETITION" and posted to Self Help Co-op., P.O. Box 2180, Auckland,

- P.O. Box 125, Wellington, P.O. Box 670, Christchurch, P.O. Box 612, Dunedin, P.O. Box 185, Invercargill, or handed in to any Self Help shop on or before July 31st, 1947.
5. No entry fee or entry form is required.
6. All entries become the sole property of the Self Help Co-op. Ltd.
7. The decision of the judges will be final.
8. Results of the competition will be published in the Self Help Adventure Club Magazine, leading newspapers and journals and will be available from Self Help shops everywhere.

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