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Can Churches Save The World?

Bishop of Wellington's Message of Hope and Faith To "Record" Readers

AS this Christmastide approaches and still armaments are being piled sky-high by every nation in the world, when bombs are still dropping on innocent noncombatants in Spain and China, when a whole race of Jews is being persecuted for the madness of one man, when the fabric of civilisation sways and trembles before the windy breath of dictators . . . in this fantastic age the ordinary men and women of New Zealand are searching for some hope. They are asking: "What can save the world?" Last week the "Record" asked the Rt. Rev. H. St. Barbe Holland, Bishop of Wellington: "Cen the Church save the world?"

ENEVA, home of the League of Nations, was afraid. It was the time of the crisis.

Geneva everyone had been

In Geneva everyone had been talking of war, wondering with fear what the outcome of the Czechoslovakian dispute would be, wondering even whether there would be any meetings of the League Assembly a year hence.

In the midst of the tension the President of the League Council, Mr. W. J. Jordan, New Zealand's High Commissioner, was giving a luncheon in the Hotel des Bergues, official residence of many national delegations to the League. He was giving the luncheon for his League colleagues to meet and hear leaders of a Christian move-

hear leaders of a Christian move-ment, the Oxford Group.

TING with Mr. Jordan as hosts were the Foreign Minister of Holland, the Presideat of the Norwegian Parliament and the Rumanian Minister at The Hague, who is President of the First Commission of the League.

The great dining-room was packed with 500 guests from 53 nations. One of the shrewdest men of the north, Stortings-President Hambro north, Stortings-President Hambro of Norway, the man who pilots the finances of the League, rose to introduce the leader of the Oxford Group, Dr. Frank Buchman.

Today, said the Norwegian statesman, he and his colleagues, had asked the Oxford Group to Geneva because the group had suc-

ceeded where statesmanship had failed, creating a constructive peace within itself for which others had vainly fought for years.

It was a strange moment this, when statesmen representing all nations threw up their hands in despair of solving human problems by the gifts of human brains and intelligence, and called in the aid of God.

N Britain, too, during the crisis, the country was swept by a spiritual wave that reached its height when the Archbishop of Canterbury called the people of the nation to prayer.

The Dean and Chapter of West-minster threw open the famous Abbey day and night.

At Westminster Abbey on the At Westminster Abbey on the Sunday morning a great congregation of 3000 thronged the church. Mrs. Neville Chamberlain sat in the sub-Dean's stall.

The people of Britain prayed for peace. A new phrase began to ring in the land.

THE WORLD MUST HAVE MORAL AND SPIRI-TUAL REARMAMENT.

The Hon. Miles Phillimore, Oxford Group member, who recently visited New Zealand, reports to the "Record" that during the crisis 33 M.P.'s, Lord Baldwin and 15 associates, Lord Bledisloe, tennis

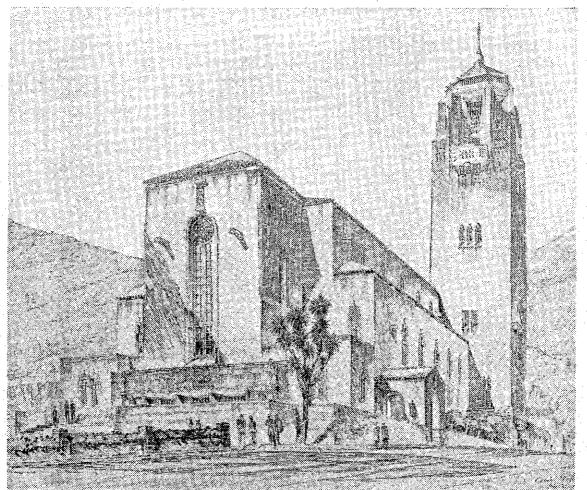
Chairs were arranged near the player "Bunny" Austin, and Jiugi Tomb of the Unknown Warrior Kasai, member of the Japanese and people of all kinds came in and knelt facing the tomb, pledging themselves to be constructive peace makers.

At Westminster Abbey on the

IT was with this phrase in mind that the "Record" last week asked Bishop St. Barbe Holland: "Could the Churches save the world? Could they bring peace?"

"Yes," said the Bishop, "provided the people remember that peace is only a byproduct. Peace can only come from a truer Christian standard of life.

(Turn to page 2.)



CHURCH'S DREAM OF PEACE.—And one more dream will take practical shape when the foundation stone of New Zealand's new Anglican cathedral is laid in Wellington

HIGH Xmastide: financial water.

"A DEAR with a bash," said a Christchurch youth to the bar-maid the other night,

CAUSE AND EFFECT?

A 3ZB announcer on Sunday last, talking about the West Coast—"This piace has the greatest number of hotels—per popita of capulation—I mean per capita of population."

"AN ingenious woman can find many attractive uses for col-oured paper."—Household hint. The coloured paper most attrac-tive to women bears a signature and the words "Pay—or order."

UNLIMITED SPACE.

"PHE hall was nicely decorated with evergreens, balloons and steamers."—New Zealand news-

WHY is it these days that the paper boy brings my paper to me instead of flinging it over the fence; that the postman smiles "Good morning," instead of scowling; that the dustman pur my rubbish tins inside the gate incread of leaving them to bowl along the street with the wind, and all the other tradesmen seem awfully good scouts.—Why?

OUR ZOOLOGISTS.

FROM a story by a "big game hunter" in a South African weekly: "At the same instant Ruler (a lion) crept within 30 yards of a yearling heifer (a giraffe) in rear of the troop. A sudden mighty leap and the heifer went down with a strangled bellow."

In spite of the fact that a giraffe as no larynx and is virtually dumb.

RADIO will bring the whole world to your home this Christmas, said an announcer the other day. We hope it brings its own drinks,

SAFETY First Week has been on the go. Th arrest for the wary. There was no

WE went along to a friend's place the other night to look at our library.

SPOONING couples used to save gas by turning it down in the parlour, but now they economise on it by parking the car.

"GERMAN People Don't Want War."—Headline.
Who asked them, anyway?

THE man with that hunted took may not be a criminal. He may be living with his wife's