

# END OF ALL KINGDOMS IN 1914

## "Millennial Dawners" 25 Year Prophecy

According to the Calculations of Rev. Russell's "International Bible Students," This is the "Time of Trouble" Spoken of by the Prophet Daniel, the Year 1914 Predicted in the Book "The Time is at Hand," of which Four Million Copies Have Been Sold, as the Date of the Downfall of the Kingdoms of Earth.

THE terrific war outbreak in Europe has fulfilled an extraordinary prophecy.

For a quarter of a century past, through preachers and through press, the "International Bible Students," best known as "Millennial Dawners," have been proclaiming to the world that the Day of Wrath prophesied in the Bible would dawn in 1914.

"Look out for 1914!" has been the cry of the hundreds of travelling evangelists who, representing this strange creed, have gone up and down the country enunciating the doctrine that "the Kingdom of God is at hand."

The Bible speaks of a "time of trouble such as never was since there was a nation." This prophecy of Daniel the Millennialists identify as the "Day of Wrath," the "Battle of Armageddon," the "Time of the Lord" and the so-called "End of the World," references to which are plentiful in the Scriptures.

Although millions of people must have listened to these evangelists, although one of their magazines "The Time is at Hand," has had a circulation of more than four million copies, and although their propaganda has been carried on through religious publications and a secular press service involving hundreds of country newspapers, as well as through lectures, debates, study classes, and even moving pictures, the average man does not know that such a movement as the "Millennial Dawn" exists.

He knows its leader's face, perhaps, having seen it hundreds of times at the head of some "religious column" in his home paper. But if he were asked wherein this man's teachings differ from those of any other Bible student, he would be stumped for a reply.

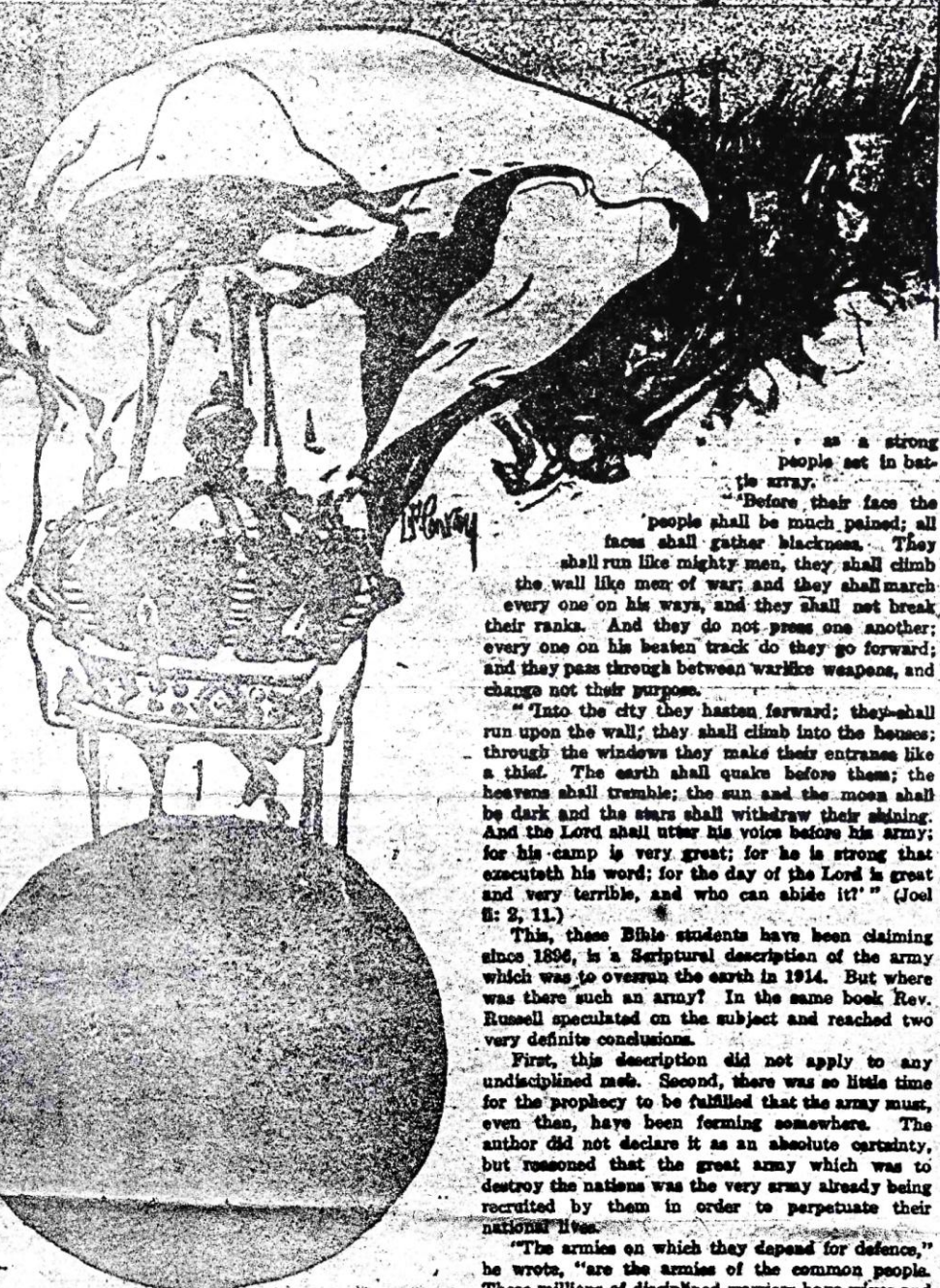
Rev. Charles T. Russell is the man who has been propounding this interpretation of the Scriptures since 1874. He has based his statements on methods of calculation which are, to say the least, unique, and not liable to capture the attention of men who are used to ordinary methods of reasoning. His surmises have seemed to the average person of no more importance than a mystic's dream. And yet on the date set we are in the midst of a world-wide war.

That Rev. Russell's prophecies would be literally fulfilled has been the gospel of the International Bible Students. To others, now that at least one of them has been most strikingly verified, they will certainly be of interest.

"In view of this strong Bible evidence," Rev. Russell wrote in 1889, "we consider it an established truth that the final end of the kingdoms of this world and the full establishment of the Kingdom of God will be accomplished by the end of A. D. 1914." But it will not be accomplished, he pointed out, until after a "time of trouble such as never was since there was a nation."

In 1896 he wrote his book, "The Day of Vengeance," now circulated under the title "The Battle of Armageddon," in which he outlined from alleged Scriptural authority, just what this universal war would be and who would constitute the "Army of the Lord."

"Can it be," he asked, "that the people of God, who are filled with His spirit, shall accomplish the great work of overthrowing the kingdoms of this



world by the preaching of the Gospel? Would that it might be so! But the Scriptures show us that such will not be the case. It is evidently not the saints who are to constitute the Lord's great army, referred to by the prophets. The army of the saints is but a "little flock," while here is the Bible's description of this army:

"A great people and a strong; there hath not been ever the like; neither shall be any more after it, even to the year of many generations." "A fire devoureth before them, and behind them a flame burneth; the land is as the Garden of Eden before them, and behind them a desolate wilderness; yea, and nothing shall escape them. The appearance of them is as the appearance of horses; and as horsemen so shall they run. Like the noise of chariots on the tops of mountains (kingdoms) shall they leap; like the noise of a flame of fire that devoureth the stubble,

as a strong people set in battle array.

"Before their face the people shall be much pained; all faces shall gather blackness. They shall run like mighty men, they shall climb the wall like men of war; and they shall march every one on his ways, and they shall not break their ranks. And they do not press one another; every one on his beaten track do they go forward; and they pass through between warlike weapons, and change not their purpose.

"Into the city they hasten forward; they shall run upon the wall; they shall climb into the houses; through the windows they make their entrances like a thief. The earth shall quake before them; the heavens shall tremble; the sun and the moon shall be dark and the stars shall withdraw their shining. And the Lord shall utter his voice before his army; for his camp is very great; for he is strong that executeth his word; for the day of the Lord is great and very terrible, and who can abide it?" (Joel II: 2, 11.)

This, these Bible students have been claiming since 1896, is a Scriptural description of the army which was to overrun the earth in 1914. But where was there such an army? In the same book Rev. Russell speculated on the subject and reached two very definite conclusions.

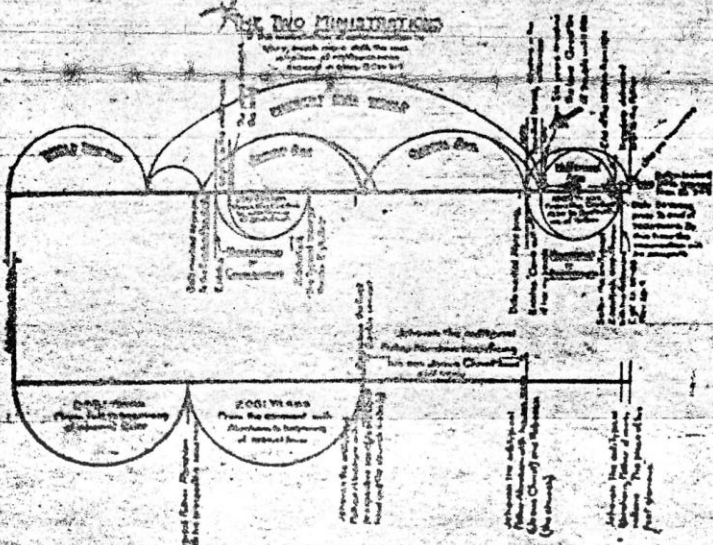
First, this description did not apply to any undisciplined mob. Second, there was so little time for the prophecy to be fulfilled that the army must, even then, have been forming somewhere. The author did not declare it as an absolute certainty, but reasoned that the great army which was to destroy the nations was the very army already being recruited by them in order to perpetuate their national lives.

"The armies on which they depend for defence," he wrote, "are the armies of the common people. These millions of disciplined warriors have wives and sons and daughters and brothers and sisters and friends in the ranks of the common people, with whose interests their own are linked. Their service of thrones and kingdoms is secured only by imperative orders, and made endurable by a remuneration which they are fast coming to consider no satisfactory compensation for the hardships and privations they and their families must undergo, not to mention perils to life and limb and health and fortune. Year by year these armed hosts are becoming more and more irritated and dissatisfied with their lot. All of these things are an indication that, in the crisis approaching, the armed and disciplined hosts of Christendom may turn their power against the authorities that called them into being."

Not the German army as such, and not the armies of the other nations, the strange old Bible student pointed out, would wreak this universal devastation. It would be an "army of the Revelation," an army which should recognize none of the existing governments, although probably trained for its work by them. And its real mission would be, not the conquest of one nation by another, but the annihilation of all.

These generalities, it must be said, were not radically different from the view-with-alarm speeches constantly emitted by statesmen, and by the editorials in conservative journals. But to say that the trouble must culminate in 1914—that was peculiar. For some strange reason, perhaps because Rev. Russell has a very calm, higher-mathematics style of writing instead of flamboyant soap box manners, the world in general has scarcely taken him into account.

The students ever in his "Brooklyn Tabernacle" say that this was to be expected, that the world never did listen to divine warnings and never will, until after the day of trouble is past. They liken him to Noah, who was ridiculed for telling of a coming flood. The aged preacher, in the meantime, is going his way, supremely satisfied that the trouble will come on schedule time, and considering it none of his business.



This chart, printed by the International Bible Students' Association sixteen years ago, identified the year 1914 as the scriptural "time of trouble," in which the greatest war of history would be fought. The chart is intended to represent the whole "Plan of the Ages" solely through interpretation of Bible prophecies.