

gentsia, and the claim is acknowledged by all who think as they do. Dr. Mann makes the book his own by writing as follows: "My dear children, you, my two eldest, have written a book after my own heart." And, by the way, Dr. Mann, sponsored by the "Tremblay Lectures Bureau," lectured in the Glebe Collegiate, Ottawa, on Wednesday, the 24th of January last, his subject being "The Coming Victory of Democracy," the title of his book. Under the circumstances, would it be out of place for me to ask Dr. Mann, and those sponsoring his lecture, to tell us whether he and his family have abjured their Russian Communism, and, if so, when, to what extent, and why? The book, "Escape To Life," is in all or most of the circulating libraries of Canada, and the librarians are diligent in commending it to their patrons.

Now, what does this kind of thing indicate? It surely indicates the loss of all practical faith in, and respect for, the teaching of the Bible, because the teaching of the Bible and this kind of thing are as far apart as the poles. And can Christendom or the democracies destroy Hitlerism and Stalinism while they themselves refuse to follow Christ in many things, or while they regard Him as a hypothesis or think they can get along very well without Him. It surely is time for stock-taking at home.

I will now try to view the field from another angle. On the eve of Right Hon. R. B. Bennett's departure from Canada he declared at a farewell banquet that it was his considered view that the Church had failed. This was tantamount to saying that God had failed, and showed that Mr. Bennett had no real conception of what the term "Church" means. If the Bible is the revealed, inspired word of God, or even a careful collection of authentic historical documents and wise admonitions, one of the outstanding things our Saviour did while bodily present on this earth was to establish an institution, an organization, or a teaching body, called a Church. With this Church He promised to remain till the consummation of the world. In addition, He promised to send it the Holy Ghost, the Spirit of Truth, to be its special guide and instructor, and to bring all things to its remembrance, while time should endure. Moreover, He commanded all men to hear this Church, saying, "He that hears you hears Me," and "He that refuses to hear the Church, let him be to thee as the heathen and the publican." thereby making Himself responsible for its teaching and thus ensuring its inerrancy. Therefore, to say that this Church had failed, in essentials, is to say that God had failed;

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is to say that Jesus Christ was unable or unwilling to keep His promises; is to explicitly deny the Deity of Jesus Christ and the Deity of the Holy Ghost. Now I feel sure that Mr. Bennett never intended to make such declarations, but I feel equally sure that he did not comprehend the full meaning and implications of his words; and in this respect he is like unto millions, yes, tens of millions of other befuddled Christians. This kind of thing may not in itself be Hitlerism or Stalinism, but it is Modernism, which is capable of becoming the parent of all the wandering anti-Christian "isms" in the world; and it indicates that at some time or other a large part of Christendom adopted some erroneous principle or committed some sin that prevents it from being able to reason logically in spiritual things. What Mr. Bennett probably thinks is that because there are and have been many bad lay members in the Church, particularly kings and princes, and because there are and have been unworthy ecclesiastics in the Church, some of them in high places, or even in the highest place in the visible Church, that meant the failure of the Church. But a moment's reflection would show the fallacy of such reasoning. If that reasoning were correct, it would prove that the bad men of this world were more powerful than God; that they could and did circumvent His plans and nullify His word; because Jesus Christ declared that the gates of hell should never prevail against the Church which He founded. Therefore, the presence of bad lay members and of some unworthy ecclesiastics in the Church, even granting for the moment that the many exaggerated statements of enemy historians are accurate, no more destroys its faith or nullifies the commission it received from Jesus than the betrayal of Judas and the denial of Peter, who afterwards became a saint, impaired the knowledge, the wisdom and the power of Christ, who called these men with others. In this connection Christ told His disciples what would happen: "Woe to the world because of scandals: For it must needs be that scandals come; but nevertheless woe to that man by whom the scandal cometh." Matthew, 14, 15.

I shall mention just one other important matter in connection with the idea which I am trying to convey. An Associated Press dispatch from London, England, in February, 1938, carried the news that the House of Bishops of the Convocation of Canterbury had, by a majority vote, declined to make a ruling on the question, which came to it from the Lower House, as to the meaning of the