

# Great Hymn Festival at the Rock of Ages

## MASSED CHOIRS TO LEAD SINGING

Sunday, July 31, at 3.30 p.m.

**T**HE RALLY at the Rock of Ages, in Burrington Combe, Somerset, is a mighty act of devotion. It is not merely a spectacle; it is an occasion of immense spiritual significance. The importance of an event for which 30,000 gather from all parts of the country to sing hymns of praise, as they did at the Rock of Ages Pilgrimage in August 1931, cannot be overestimated.

No one can gather at the Rock of Ages, and join in the massed singing of the immortal hymn that was inspired there, without being impelled to think of the highest things.

**T**O those who are avowedly religious the Rally at the Rock of Ages is a profoundly solemn occasion. And to those who give little thought to religious matters throughout the year this devotional demonstration at the Rock on 'one Sunday of the year must send a challenge to the heart that cannot be ignored.

And the devotional drama of many thousands of people thronging the natural amphitheatre around the Rock of Ages in Burrington Combe and joining in the singing of the much-loved hymn is not only momentarily moving; it is an unforgettable spiritual experience.

The Rock of Ages—that cleft cliff under which Augustus Toplady was sheltering from a Mendip thunderstorm when he was inspired to write the hymn which has given the rock its name—is now world-famous. Never a summer day passes but hundreds of people are brought to the Rock and the story of the Rock of Ages is told them.

**B**UT on this one day of the year—Rock of Ages Sunday—the Rock is more than a matter of interest for sightseers.

It is a place of pilgrimage. It is a sacred symbol—reminding each of the thousands who gather for this festival of the Faith of that Other Rock of which Toplady wrote while thunder clamoured through the combe—

*Rock of Ages, cleft for me,  
Let me hide myself in Thee . . .*

From 2.30 to 3.30 a Concert will be given by the Military Band Section of the Professional Bands Association (Bristol) under the direction of Mr. W. S. Porter.

At 3.30 the Choirs will march up the Combe headed by the Fishponds Argyle Silver Prize Band and will assemble before the Rock of Ages.

**THE BRISTOL HARMONIC MALE VOICE CHOIR, THE BRISTOL CENTRAL BROTHERHOOD CHOIR AND THE MIDSOMER NORTON MALE VOICE CHOIR WILL THEN LEAD THE COMMUNITY SINGING.**

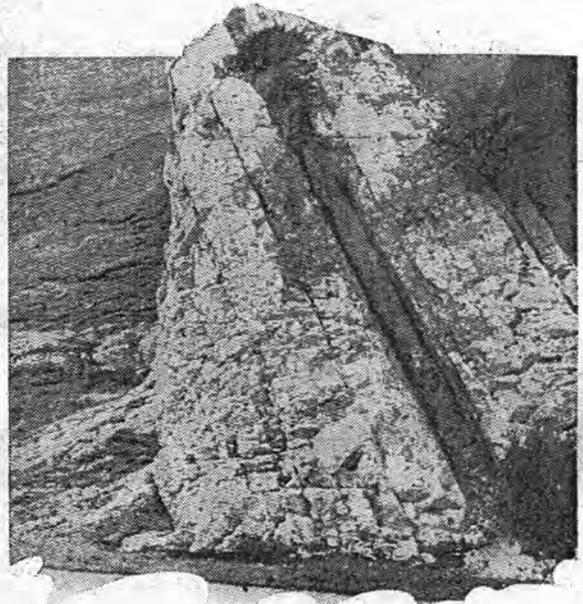
Musical Director of the Festival—  
**MR. JOSEPH JENKINS.**



Mr. Joseph Jenkins, the conductor and musical director of the festival



Mr. Oliver H. McCowen, a distinguished leader of the Y.M.C.A., who will be the speaker



## ORDER OF THE SERVICE

*Announced by Mr. Fred A. Wilshire, Barrister-at-Law, Chairman of Colston Hall, Bristol, Sunday Evening Services for the People.*

### HYMN.—All People That on Earth do Dwell.

All people that on earth do dwell, Sing to the Lord with cheerful voice; Him serve with fear, His praise forthtell, Come ye before Him, and rejoice.	To Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, The God Whom Heav'n and earth adore, From men and from the angel-hosts Be praise and glory evermore.
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### SENTENCE

We are assembled here in the Name of God to render thanks for the world-wide inspiration of Augustus Toplady's Immortal hymn, "Rock of Ages," and to strike a chord of Fellowship with all Christian people at home and overseas, who build upon The Rock which our Master named in the Sermon on the Mount. In order that we may do this more appropriately,

### LET US PRAY.

**THE PEOPLE WILL THEN JOIN IN  
"THE LORD'S PRAYER."**

### HYMN.—Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah.

Guide me, O Thou Great Jehovah, Pilgrim through this barren land; I am weak, but Thou art mighty. Hold me with Thy powerful Hand; Bread of Heaven, Feed me now and evermore.	Lead me all my journey through; Strong Deliverer, Be Thou still my Strength and Shield.
Open now the crystal fountain, Whence the healing streams do flow; Let the fiery, cloudy pillar	When I tread the verge of Jordan, Bid my anxious fears subside; Death of death, and hell's destruction, Land me safe on Canaan's side; Songs of praises I will ever give to Thee.

### THE COMBINED CHOIRS.

"The Destruction of Gaza" .....	de Rille
"Gently Lord" .....	Berner
"The Crusaders" .....	Protheroe