ERIE
ROGERS ISRAEL, D.D., Bishop

Te Deum of Thanksgiving—Epidemic Continues

According to ancient custom, the Cathedral announced a Te Deum of thanksgiving for victory on Sunday morning, November 17th. The choir was preceded by crucifer and color bearers with the flags of the United States, France, and England. Eight other color bearers carried flags of the allies, and the Cathedral was packed as at an Easter service. The color bearers entered the choir and stood at attention with the crucifer before the altar. Then, as the procession ended, they placed their flags at either end of the choir stalls, filling all the chancel with the flags of the nations allied for justice and righteousness.

The influenza epidemic, which has disorganized the whole Church work of the diocese, is dying slowly and hard. The city of Franklin, where Dr. Aigner, president of the Standing Committee, has become chaplain of the emergency hospital, is still under the ban and the number of the sick is increasing. New Castle has had another "flare-up", and a stricter quarantine has been necessary. Here the Rev. Bruce Reddish, because others could not be obtained, took the place of a sick orderly at the emergency hospital and has rendered most helpful ministrations. At Ridgway during the epidemic on Sundays all the church bells ring as usual and the people are urged to hold family prayer in their homes, the rector informing his congregation through the daily paper what each Sunday's lessons and service are. The Rev. E. H. Edson, vicar of the parish of Smethport, has been hard at work as a chief Red Cross worker, going wherever he is sent to relieve distress. The mission house at the little village of Instanter has been turned into an emergency hospital.