

BISHOP SUMNER SPEAKS IN TRINITY CHURCH, CHICAGO

On After-War Undercurrents — An Appeal for the Deeper Life — Second Visit of Influenza

The Living Church News Bureau }
Chicago, December 23, 1918 }

BISHOP SUMNER was in Chicago last week for a memorial service for Mrs. Ella Flagg Young, with whom he was associated on the Board of Education. He preached at Trinity Church on Sunday morning, December 15th. Always a leader in social work while here, the Bishop spoke of his impressions of social conditions as he had observed them in his recent trip here from the western coast. Speaking of the universal celebrations which followed after the signing of the armistice, Bishop Sumner said:

"I think I noticed all over the country in that celebration not simply a spontaneity of joy but deep undercurrent of a spirit which was threatening. It presaged a coming trouble between capital and labor unless there is made a determined effort to work towards coöperation of these two essential forces.

"We cannot settle the questions of difference by force or we will have the soviet here, as it is in Russia and Germany. Neither can it be settled by simply the yielding of capital. There must be coöperation, mutual respect, and, I add, affection. Pulpit and press must combine in cultivating this spirit of coöperation.

"Another problem is how to capitalize the fire that has been kindled in the souls of many of the men who will return from the battlefields of Europe.

"The Brotherhood of St. Andrew has received applications from six hundred men now in the army who express a desire to enter holy orders. Many of the soldiers will come back better than when they went away. Will they find the Church any better? Has the war made you any better, Mr. Church member? Do you pray more? Do you go to church more? If you don't, it isn't reasonable to think that the war will necessarily make the soldiers any better. Some of them will be worse than when they went away.

"It is our business to help the men who come back with fire in their souls to keep the fire, but it is also our business to get the fire into our souls."

APPEAL FOR THE DEEPER LIFE

The feeling is widespread in the Church to-day that the business of the war, and its distractions, have been so many that religion has been spread pretty thin, and that only a consistent deepening of the individual spiritual life will make us equal to present day tasks. Greater activity and better organization of all branches of Church work are not going to bring us far along. To begin with these is to think as the Germans, that method and system and running to and fro will get us somewhere. Why do we begin with method and hustle, and not with faith? Faith brings down the mountains, and fills in the valleys, and overcomes the world. It is encouraging, therefore, to read such words as these written by the diocesan president of the Daughters of the King, Mrs. E. E. Wade, to the members here:

"To deepen our spiritual life we should all during the coming year, fix our minds on

the same subject, and I would suggest that we take for our subject The Fruit of the Spirit.

"At the monthly meetings let each chapter throughout the diocese take one of these gifts in rotation as given in St. Paul's Epistle to the Galatians, Chap V., verses 22-24. I have a little book which contains short readings on each gift. It has been a great help to me for many years. The title is *Fruit of the Spirit*, by Canon Newbolt of Ely Cathedral. This particular book may not be in print now, as it was published in 1890, but no doubt your rectors can recommend one that will be quite as helpful and appropriate.

"The suggestion is that your directors (or one of the members) should read to the chapter the portion bearing on the special gift under consideration, and that we make that gift our watch word during the ensuing month. So shall we all be striving in unity towards the same end—Love, the first fruit of the Spirit. In our daily readings during the month we can find so many beautiful texts, passages of Scripture, and collects bearing on this particular gift. It will help us in our daily life, in our dealings with others, our little trials and disappointments. It will make us more charitable and patient—patient with people, patient with things, and patient with ourselves."

SECOND VISIT OF INFLUENZA

The second coming of the plague of influenza to Chicago alarmed the people, but because the public were better prepared by experience to meet it, and perhaps, too, because the disease was not so virulent as at the first attack, the results have not been so fatal, and the sickness is now waning. Certainly the lesser virulence and the less alarming results were not due to greater opportunities given by the health authorities to Christian people to pray in their churches. The city authorities, however, were again more intelligent and more considerate in their attitude to the churches than the suburban governing bodies. And yet we are supposed to have the most intelligent and civilized communities in these delightful abiding places outside the city walls.

Along the North Shore the epidemic was severe in Evanston and Glencoe. A proclamation closing the churches with the movies, theaters, public schools, etc., forbade people coming together in numbers in public assemblies until the ban should be lifted. Consequently the churches of Evanston were closed on Sunday, December 15th, though the Christian Scientists protested. The churches of Glencoe were closed this Sunday and the one before. Conditions in Wilmette, Kenilworth, Wymetka, and Highland Park were not so serious.

A committee of three pastors, the Rev. Dr. George Craig Stewart, St. Luke's Church; the Rev. Ernest F. Tittle, First Methodist Episcopal Church, and the Rev. A. S. C. Clarke, Second Presbyterian Church, acting for their fellow pastors, published an appeal calling on fathers to instruct their children in the Sunday school lesson, conduct family prayers, and give the children a treat.

MEETING OF "UNREDEEMED GREEKS"

The Chicago Association of Commerce in coöperation with the liberty-loving friends of Greece and associated organizations of "Unredeemed Greeks of Chicago" held a

banquet in honor of the Hon. N. G. Kyriakides, president of the National Central Committee of Unredeemed Greeks, whose headquarters are in Athens. Mr. Kyriakides is touring this land pleading his countrymen's rights in the after-war settlement. One was impressed by the passionate enthusiasm of the vigorous looking Greeks who composed most of the guests at the dinner. The mere mention of the name of their leader and statesman, Venizelos, was the signal for tremendous cheering and applause. References to the Bulgar and the Turk elicited angry protests. Mr. Kyriakides' speech was of course the climax. He is a wealthy ship owner and at the outset of the war gave freely of his wealth and of the use of his ships for his country, his gifts aggregating nearly a million dollars. Several of our clergy were the guests of the Rev. C. H. Demetry, D.D., of the Orthodox Greek Church in Chicago. Bishop Griswold made the invocation, and seconded a resolution which was adopted, that the cause of the unredeemed Greeks be given just hearing at the world's council of peace at Versailles. Just such occasions as this do much to promote a better understanding between our branch of the Church and the Eastern Church. One feels by many evidence how willing and anxious these fellow Christians are for interest and support.

H. B. Gwyn.