

The Canadian Churchman

TORONTO, THURSDAY, OCT. 15, 1914.

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Publisher.

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New Offices—8 Sheppard Street, Toronto.

Hymns from the Book of Common Praise, compiled by Dr. Albert Ham, F.R.C.O., Organist and Director of the Choir of St. James' Cathedral, Toronto.

TWENTIETH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY.

(October 25th).

Holy Communion: 259, 263, 266, 268.

Processional: 386, 465, 612, 625.

Children: 670, 673, 678, 710.

Offertory: 347, 348, 367, 377.

General: 607, 610, 619, 658.

The Outlook

The New Premier

With advancement as rapid as it is unique in the political history of Canada, the Honourable William Howard Hearst, Minister of Lands, Mines, and Forests since 1911, has been chosen by his colleagues to be the next Premier of Ontario. After six years in the Legislature and three years as a Cabinet member, he has attained the highest honour. A product of the new Northland, New Ontario, he has brought to bear upon his work a zest and practical ability which, combined with an executive capacity, have made his department most progressive. He comes to his post with a record free from suspicion. We hope he may always retain the confidence of the citizens of Ontario. As a contemporary says, may he be "honest enough to be bold, and bold enough to be honest."

The Desire for Peace

The horrors of war may beget, in some quarters, such a strong desire for peace that peace "in statu quo" might be accepted. Against such an impulse it is necessary for us to remember that this war is not one of nationalities but of principles. We cannot purchase our peace at the expense of the future. The war lord and the militarist party of the Germanic nations must be broken. A peace

that would be a return to conditions the same as those before the war would be no peace. The bully of Europe must be punished and the error of his policy that "Might is Right" must be exposed by results. The conditions of Peace imposed by the conquering Allies must render possible to Germany no renewal of this war, no fresh possibilities of arming. The Allies must take care to see that this war makes an end, that the blood of our brothers has not been shed in vain, that the power of despotism has received a blow from which it never can recover.

Peace Sunday

Inspiring reading is the report of the services of Intercession for Peace which were held all over the United States of America in response to the President's declaration. All denominations had their own special services. Protestants, Roman Catholics and Hebrews, American, French, Russian and German offered their petitions. It was notable that the Jewish synagogues in many places were open for services on the Sunday. In some cities union services were held, where members of all creeds joined, Anglican Rectors, Roman Catholic Priests and Jewish Rabbis. It was noticeable that the petitions were that the war should stop in God's good time, speakers generally expressing the conviction that an immediate cessation would mean another conflict soon. The neutral attitude in petition and sermon was almost universally observed, because sons from all of the warring countries are citizens of the Republic. In Philadelphia, however, two thousand persons who assembled in the German Lutheran Church on Franklin Square rose as one man to endorse a letter to the Kaiser assuring him of the goodwill of the German Lutherans of Philadelphia, and wishing him success in the impending conflict. That the citizens of a neutral nation were called to prayer for peace by the proclamation of their executive head is most significant. It is one answer to the statement which we hear in some quarters to-day that Christianity has failed in its mission.

Von Bethmann-Hollweg's Sneer

Sir Edward Grey is meeting the German Official Bureau's campaign of mendacity by issuing to the European capitals accurate bulletins upon the progress of events. One of the Foreign Secretary's first efforts in this direction is a sharp reply to a communication made to the Danish Press by the German Chancellor. He says:—

"Does anyone believe," asks the German Chancellor, "that England would have interfered to protect Belgian freedom against France?" The answer is that she would unquestionably have done so. Sir Edward Grey, as recorded in the White Paper, asked the French Government "whether it was prepared to engage to respect the neutrality of Belgium so long as no other Power violates it." The French Government replied that they were resolved to respect it. The assurance, it was added, had been given several times, and had formed the subject of conversation between President Poincaré and the King of the Belgians. The British Government stands in 1914 as it stood in 1870, when Prince Bismarck, approached on the subject by England, admitted and respected the treaty obligations as to Belgian neutrality.

A German Opinion of the War

A Christian German gentleman writes to a friend in Bristol, England, in the following vein:—

"I quite agree with you as to the position in England, and that, after doing her utmost to preserve peace, she could not do otherwise than declare war with Germany, after the latter had violated Belgium's neutrality. Germany's plea of necessity does not excuse the wrong act, one of whose effects is that Germany and Germans are now hated all the world over. Yet the nation itself did not wish this war. I believe there is more sorrow, suffering and humiliation among the German people at the present moment than is supposed in this country, and it is certain that untold numbers of Christians amongst that people are looking at this awful war in the same light as you and I do, as an iniquitous war, brought on by the powers of darkness, a kind of spiritual warfare, too, and surely these very Christians condemn as much the pride and arrogance shown before the war began as they do the cruelties perpetrated since then in poor, innocent Belgium."

There evidently are Germans and Germans. We hope that the spirit displayed in this letter may spread in Germany. That opposition to the war may rapidly spread from other cause than conviction, we realize when we read of the terrible sufferings of the poor and the frightful extent of unemployment. If the forecast that the war will last for many months yet be true, the position of the poor in all the belligerent countries will be dreadful, with shelter, food, clothing and heat at famine prices.

Unprepared for War

Why did the Allied Armies not go to the rescue of the Belgians? Why were the two thousand Belgian gunners allowed to fight alone in their cupola forts? The reason is only too obvious. The Allies were not ready. This unpreparedness is not in the slightest disparaging to the Allies. The preparedness of the Germans will redound to their eternal shame. The unpreparedness of the Allies will redound to their lasting honour. The Allies were not ready because they had been taken by surprise, and they had been taken by surprise because they trusted in the good faith and pacific professions of the Germans. Germany was negotiating for peace, and all the time was treacherously massing her troops on the Belgian frontier, with the result that twenty-four hours after the declaration of war three army corps were appearing before Liège. France and England continued to negotiate for peace in all sincerity, with the result that on the declaration of war England was not able for ten days to disembark her troops, and France had to think of her own defence instead of rushing to the defence of the Belgians.

Italy and the War

The attitude of the great majority of Italians towards this war is without doubt indicated by the Italian Press. The "Gazetta di Venezia," the oldest daily in Europe, recently had a leading article which aroused immense enthusiasm for England. The news of the Dominions' instant response to the Mother Country's needs, the Boers' decision to fight for England, Ireland's gallant offer, and Mr. Asquith's speech at the Guildhall, which was