

the deep things of the Spirit the controlling element in our search.

#### THE SOCIAL TASK.

There are many whom the call to arms will summon to a greater dedication of their efforts to the practical duties of the Christian faith. The enjoyment of religion, the assurance of personal salvation, individual peace and communion, must not be allowed to obscure the fact that Jesus calls us to a brotherhood and a social fellowship. We would bear in mind that unaffected goodness is quite as Christian as facility in prayer, that kindness and courtesy are as pleasing to God as regularity of worship. The divine function of the Christ is only fulfilled when the worshipper passes out of the House of God into that larger house of mankind so full of those who await our help and sympathy. When Jesus had enjoyed the Sabbath ritual of the temple at Jerusalem He passed out to heal the impotent man at the Pool of Bethesda.

The testimony of personal sacrifice for the good of others is a most powerful defence of our religion. Every one can understand the language of kindness and mercy. Every one can distinguish the badge of discipleship given by Jesus, "By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another." As long as the Church can inspire her members to acts of such brotherly love, there can be no peril for the cause of Christ. Humanly speaking, the future of the Church depends upon the self-denying labors of her members.

### III.

#### NEW STANDARDS.

For all of us this war is a clarion call to new dedication. There comes a time in some experiences when a new stage of efficiency is reached, when the former standards are suddenly left behind, and a man finds himself able to accomplish far more than he thought possible. He discovers new stores of energy, richer capabilities, larger endurance, fresh springs of joy. And just as this war has brought new standards to our youth, so may it all do for the Church.

This is a summons to leave behind us old prejudices, selfish denominational and party rivalries, and to go forward more heartily to the service of God and our brethren. We must aim at a more complete organization of the spiritual forces at our disposal by eliminating all waste, and by making our