

might be followed throughout our Churches this winter, and be succeeded by a wide and deep awakening of religious interest throughout our Church ?

(4) There ought certainly to be careful preparation made in all our congregations for the tasks and trials which are surely awaiting us "after the war." The period of the war will certainly prove not to have been that of our greatest difficulty. The duties and problems of peace will prove severer than any we have known during the war. They will gather round such points as the following :

(a) The return of the soldiers. This indeed, is upon us already. We owe them our peace and safety and our life and homes. They have stood between us and evils worse than death. Our debt is great, and it must be paid. We owe them comfort in their bodily distress. We owe them help in their economic need. Above all, we owe them Christ and His salvation. It behooves us to see that not one soldier shall return to our shores without being met with the Church's aid, in every shape and form, which shall correspond to his needs of body and soul. This lays special tasks on cities and places where military hospitals exist ; but more remote districts will have the same kind of work to do. Much personal work will be needed ; and great sums of money will be required, making heavy demands upon self-denial.

(b) The tasks of reconstruction. The War has involved a great measure of economic and social dislocation. We cannot fail to enter upon difficult and even troublous times, while society adjusts itself to peace conditions. In these times, the Church, as the organized agency of the Kingdom of God, will be tested, even more severely than in the pre-war conditions. We ought now to be giving serious study to the economic, social, and political problems which in the peace, will be acute and urgent. This is the duty laid on all thoughtful persons. More particularly it is incumbent on all ministers, elders, teachers, Social Service workers, all, in short, who are called to leadership. That the slum shall be no more ; that poverty shall cease to be ; that labor shall have its due reward ; that the natural wealth of Canada shall not be exploited in the interests of the few ; that the aggregation of riches in the hands of a small group shall be made impossible ; are among some of the ends determined by the Christian Law of Love. How they are to be compassed is the question, not of theorists or demagogues, but of every disciple of Jesus. That no terms shall be made with social vice, or with public corruption ; that government, municipal, provincial, and dominion, shall be administered right-