

I HAVE NEVER FELT NEED OF RELIGION

"I have never felt the need of religion." Such was the remark made by a woman of the world when asked to turn to God after a serious bereavement and to seek her consolation in Him.

For the man born deaf and blind to say that he had never felt the need of human voice or light of day, of music or of art, might argue but a lack of comprehension. We might pity while we held our peace. We know full well of what it is that he has been deprived. Yet his loss on earth may be his gain hereafter. In itself it is insignificant compared with that far greater loss sustained by the man or woman who has "never felt the need of religion." It is a loss which only they can understand who have truly learned to know God and to love Him.

There is a question here of more than mere deprivation. The manly life is far deeper. The intellect, as we know, cannot long deny God without violence to itself. Far more reasonable would it be to deny the builders of the Rheims Cathedral, with its finely chiselled statues and its tracery in stone, than to deny the Builder of the universe. Neither can evolution do away with the need of a personal God. Behind the laws of Solon, was the mind of Solon, and behind the plan and order of the laws of nature is the infinite wisdom and power of the Divine Lawgiver. The more we postulate evolution, the more we stand in need of admitting the intelligence that drew the world from chaos into light and beauty in whatever potent and wonderful way this was mightily accomplished.

From God we come, to God we belong, on God we depend; and hence the need of His knowledge in our lives by the practice of religion. There is no evasion of this truth possible. All mankind has ever acknowledged it. Nor would any sane mind wish to evade it that has once tasted how sweet it is to serve God and adore Him, and to feel the bounties of His love poured out into our hearts. Far more than light to the eye, than sound to the ear, is God to the soul. Far more than the sun itself to the earth is the grace of God to the children of men. Has He not loved us first with an everlasting love!

What words then can describe the poverty of that soul which claimed "I have never felt the need of religion!"

Its state was long ago declared by the Apostle when he wrote: "Because thou sayest: I am rich and made wealthy, and have need of nothing; and knowest not, that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked."

Conscience itself proclaims within us the need of worship and our nature demands it. We are made for God, as St. Augustine found in his own personal experience and wide knowledge of the world, and find no real happiness until we rest in Him. This is the truth that the great American nation acknowledges in its motto: "In God we trust."

No nation was ever sunk into such abysmal darkness that it no longer acknowledged the existence of God and the need of worshipping Him, however passion and ignorance may have debased this belief. Such is the historic fact regarding every civilized race. And the same holds true of even the most barbarous tribes. Isolated statements of travellers that might seem to contradict it have upon closer study and investigation, been found to be mistaken.

The idea of religion and the need of religion have been the inspiration of the world's highest achievements. The wonders of architecture, the master paintings of the greatest artists, the poems that have been the admiration of the ages, are all dedicated to religion, conceived in the spirit of religion or bespeak in the plainest ways the need man has of it.

In two immortal lines Shakespeare has expressed the sum of man's highest and noblest aims in life: "Let all the ends thou aim'st at be thy country's, Thy God's, and truth's."

Patriotism and religion go hand in hand; and there is no sincere search after truth that must not end in finding God; in knowing Him, loving Him, and serving Him.—Rev. Joseph Husslein in Our Sunday Visitor.

CARDINAL GIBBONS' APPEAL FOR FOURTH LIBERTY LOAN

Our beloved country turns to us once more with the earnest appeal to lend her \$6,000,000. The amount is enormous but every penny of it is needed, if we want to win this War. Do we possess this much money? Yes, we possess it. Can we invest it to better purpose? Emphatically no. If the security behind this loan is not good, then no security is good. But the great overwhelming fact is that our Country needs this money. There is no gain saying that our armies need it. Our Navy needs it. Our fathers, sons and brothers, pouring out their life's blood cheerfully and gloriously for us, need it and beg for it. Our heroic women, mothers, daughters and sisters cry out to us to lend it. Our valiant Allies need it and implore us to lend it, that the world may be better and safer, that liberty may be preserved among all nations, great and small, that tyranny may be crushed. These are the eloquent

voices calling upon us, all of us, to do our utmost to purchase this Fourth Issue of Bonds, all of them, and more.

Will any true American refuse or hesitate? Only one voice is lifted against the purchase of these Bonds, and that is the voice of the enemy, the oppressor of the people. He who harkens to a deaf ear to the cry of his country, is not worthy of the name of American, is not a lover of liberty, or of his country.

NATIONAL CATHOLIC WAR COUNCIL

AMERICAN BISHOPS LENDING SUPPORT TO SINGLE DRIVE

New York, Oct. 8, 1918.—Every mail brings to the headquarters of the National Catholic War Council fresh indications that the Archbishops and Bishops of the country are actively and energetically participating in the preliminary work that is essential to make the United War Work Financial Campaign a great success. When the change to a United Drive was made, conferences had already been called in many of the States and it was necessary to arrange by telegraph with many of the Bishops to take advantage of the opportunity presented by these conferences. The members of the hierarchy were quick to respond.

At San Francisco, Archbishop Hanna was one of the dominating figures of the conference. Archbishop Glennon took hold in St. Louis. Bishop Rhode, who may be said to speak for the three million Poles, in the Church, was an outstanding figure at Milwaukee. Bishop Conroy of Ogdensburg made a profound impression by the speech he delivered at Syracuse. Bishop Nilan of Hartford was the first speaker at a very remarkable gathering held at New Haven. In the South, Bishop Russell of Charleston took a prominent part in the conference in that city, as did Bishop Curley of St. Augustine and Bishop Allen of Mobile in the Florida and Alabama conferences, respectively.

Still more convincing, perhaps, are the pastoral letters addressed by the Bishops to the clergy urging the organization of Catholic people in the parishes for participation in the work of the United War Work's Committees in their local districts.

Cardinal Gibbons, in the course of his letter to the clergy of the Archdiocese of Baltimore, says:

"While it remains true that there will be a merging of forces, and no mention made of Catholic, non-Catholic, or Hebrew activity, a magnificent opportunity is here presented of adding glory to the Church. The sum awarded to the National Catholic War Council from the full amount to be collected is thirty millions of dollars. It is highly important, therefore, that every effort be made to raise our quota so that all may stand in the front line of the cause of our liberty, justice and freedom."

Cardinal O'Connell of Boston in announcing the campaign, says: "At the very outset I am pleased to give to it my most hearty approval and God speed that it may be crowned with splendid success. The need for recreational and moral welfare work among the forces is becoming more urgent every day and the Catholic young men, who constitute a large percentage in every branch of the service, look to us to supply spiritual help and safeguards to strengthen them for the mighty conflict, and to keep their souls in God's friendship and love. The National Catholic War Council is represented in the camps, both at home and overseas, by the Knights of Columbus, whose unstinted efforts to help build up and maintain the morale of our troops is a powerful contribution of Catholic effort for the success of our arms."

Bishop Schwabach of LaCrosse makes a direct appeal on behalf of those at the front:

"At the nation's call hundreds of our best and brightest, the flower of our youth, the hopes and pride of our homes, have gathered on foreign soil, far from their cheerful homes, to fight the nation's battles, and uphold the nation's honor. These boys, so inexpressibly dear to their parents, so precious in the eyes of a hoping people, are no less dear and no less precious to the Church whose divine mission it is to guide them, and more especially, on the path of virtue to their and our home in heaven. For these, our dear boys we plead, in their names, and in their behalf, your Bishop appeals to you for your unstinted help in the present endeavor to raise funds for our soldiers' welfare work. The boys need the things this money will provide for them; they need them badly; our boys need them; your boys need them. Let us, then, following in the footsteps of the Catholic patriots of Washington's time and of Lincoln's time, freely, generously and energetically cooperate with our fellow citizens in this all important work. You would not refuse your children the benefits of the things this money will get for them if they were at home; will you refuse them now that they are far away from you? Because you do not see their wants, will you let the cry of your boys go unheeded?"

Bishop Albo of Belleville, Ill., pleads for faithful and entire cooperation of the Catholic people in the United War Work Campaign:

"The various societies engaged in welfare work, among them particularly the Knights of Columbus, have rendered such splendid service to our soldiers, have contributed so much to their happiness, solace and welfare, in the camps and overseas, that they have won the admiration and praise of the American people and of the peoples with whom we are associated in the War. Therefore, it is only by the most generous response to the present appeal of these organizations for funds to continue and extend their magnificent welfare work that we can manifest, in a worthy manner, our appreciation for the great good they accomplish, and also in a very efficient way share in their work of supporting the Government in this struggle for a successful and victorious conclusion of the War. And should not our Catholic people be moved to wholehearted cooperation in this campaign by the thought that the present undertaking of the National Catholic War Council, if crowned with brilliant success, as it should be, will redound to the glory of the Catholic Church?"

A MESSAGE FROM CARDINAL MERCIER

A message from Cardinal Mercier, Archbishop of Malines, to the American people, written in his own hand, has been brought to this country by Prof. Paul Van den Ven, Director of the Belgian Information Service in Washington, who has just returned from a visit to the Belgian front. Here is the message:

"I wish I were able to express adequately to great-hearted America the great admiration I feel for the powerful assistance which she brings to our armies and for the extraordinary courage of her soldiers. I should also desire to thank them day by day for their charitable and humane assistance. This young nation, so vigorous of heart and hand, is wonderful! I wish for my own part to express to the contributors to Belgian charities my deep appreciation of their assistance. I pray that the Lord may reward them for their zealous work."

Cardinal Mercier considers America wonderful, and America has the same idea of him. He is regarded everywhere in this country as one of the most heroic figures in the War. His devotion to God and country has deeply impressed all our people, and his name will be imperishable, not alone in Belgian history, but in world history.—N. Y. News.

ITS REAL SIGNIFICANCE

While there can be little doubt that the taking of Nazareth will have an effect on the attitude of Turkey towards the German alliance, this is not the main interest attached to the event. Our interest is aroused not so much from the military significance of the occupation of Nazareth as it is by the Christian associations that hang around the little town in the Galilean hills.

When we speak the word Nazareth it brings to mind that little Jewish Maiden that dwelt within its precincts. We recall the day when the Archangel of God came down from Heaven and entered into her humble home and announced to her that stupendous mystery that God had chosen her to be the Mother of His Incarnate Son. We follow her and St. Joseph from Nazareth to Bethlehem. With them we go back to her little home town and watch the Boy Jesus grow up to Manhood. The occupation of Nazareth by Christian troops has a meaning that cannot be defined in terms of military strategy.

We may also believe that there is prophecy in the occupation of Nazareth. Our purpose in the War cannot be measured by geographical boundaries. We are not endeavoring to extend physical limitations by conquest. We may say with all reverence that we have gone into the War to bring about that peace and good will that was first brought into the world by the Incarnate Son of God, Who grew to Manhood in the little village of Nazareth.—Catholic Sun.

BLIND LEADERS OF THE BLIND

More than ever the great calamity of the world-war, with its stark realities of life and death, has disposed men to humility and the acknowledgment of their dependence upon God. More than ever, apparently, the voices of blatant pseudo-scientists and infidel university professors who insist upon shocking the sensibilities of reasonable men by their denials of God and their negation of Christianity and religion, have been silenced by the thunder of the canon.

How, we wonder, were such travesties before high Heaven ever possible? Many of these so-called learned men, we must remember, are limited to a single specialty and ill informed in perhaps all other things. Many, with a wider range of interests, are utterly ignorant of the supernatural life and the things of the spirit. Worse than this, they have been filled with the strangest misconceptions concerning God's Holy Church. Whatever information they possess has usually been acquired from writers professing opposed to her or equally unfamiliar with Catholic authorities.

Many judge the Church by their knowledge of the sects; and finding these wanting, conclude the same in regard to her. This is a common error in modern life and literature. Such men are often the most difficult to convince because of the false propositions that must first be cleared away before the truth can find a path into their minds. Yet even then it is only in the desire of their heart or in their self-inflicted blindness of intellect that such men persistently deny the very existence of God. Having eyes they see not; and ears they hear not, though all nature blazes in their sight and thunders into their ears this one, great, obvious truth. "By this I know you, learned sirs," wrote Goethe, whom no one will suspect of an excess of piety, but who plainly understood this fantasy—"By this I know you learned sirs, that what you cannot touch lies far away from you, and what you cannot grasp you miss entirely, and what you cannot count you hold to be untrue, and what you cannot weigh is without weight for you, and what you cannot coin has not the slightest worth for you."

No one so blind as he who will not see! But there can be no greater mistake than even for an instant to imagine that the intellect of the world has ever been infidel or agnostic. The truly great minds of mankind have in all periods acknowledged the existence of God and the need of worshipping Him. The builders of the world's most marvelous architecture; the giant intellects of Greece and Rome; the supreme artists of all times, culminating in Raphael and Michael Angelo; the sublimest poets, Homer, Dante, Shakespeare; the master scientist Newton, and all the greatest minds of all the ages, profoundly believed in God. But it is needless to enumerate. It is not a question of names. It is a question of evidence. We have ourselves been given the faculty of reason. By this and by the light and grace of God bestowed upon us, we shall be judged, and not by the vain names of vain authorities that can avail us nothing.

SPANISH INFLUENZA RAGES IN CANADA

Thousands of Cases Reported With Many Deaths.

THOSE WHO ARE MOST SUSCEPTIBLE TO IT

"FRUIT-A-TIVES"—The Wonderful Fruit Medicine—Gives the Power To Resist This Disease.

The epidemic of Spanish Influenza which played such havoc in Europe, has reached this continent. Thousands of cases of the strange malady have appeared and many deaths are already reported. Surgeon-General Blue of the United States Public Health Service having stated that "Spanish Influenza will probably spread all over the country in a few weeks".

Practically every ship which touches our shores from abroad, brings those infected with the disease. Surgeon-General Blue urges that "the individual take all the precautions he can against contracting the disease by care and personal hygiene". Plenty of exercise should be taken; the diet should be regulated, etc.

Spanish Influenza affects most severely elderly persons and other whose powers of resistance are weakened by illness, work or worry, especially those who are "run-down" or "not feeling up to the mark."

The really great danger from the disease is not so much in the disease itself, as that it often develops into pneumonia.

What everyone needs now is a general tonic like "Fruit-a-tives". This wonderful fruit medicine is not a germ-killer. It is a body-builder; a strength-maker; a blood-purifier; a power in protecting against the ravages of disease. "Fruit-a-tives" regulates the kidneys and bowels, causing these organs to eliminate waste regularly and naturally as nature intended. "Fruit-a-tives" keeps the skin active, and purifies and enriches the blood. "Fruit-a-tives" tones up and strengthens the organs of digestion, insuring food being properly digested and assimilated.

Everyone can take ordinary precautions, avoid crowded places, and use "Fruit-a-tives" regularly to insure sound digestion, to keep the bowels and kidneys regular and the whole system in the best possible condition. Then we are safe from disease. "Fruit-a-tives" is sold by dealers everywhere at 60c a box, 6 for \$2.50, mail order 75c or sent postpaid on receipt of money by Fruit-a-tives Limited, Ottawa, Ont.

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The builders of the world's most marvelous architecture; the giant intellects of Greece and Rome; the supreme artists of all times, culminating in Raphael and Michael Angelo; the sublimest poets, Homer, Dante, Shakespeare; the master scientist Newton, and all the greatest minds of all the ages, profoundly believed in God.

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PATRIOTS AT TABLE

The new food conservation program calls for even greater savings in food-stuffs than were accomplished last year by the various days each week on which certain products were denied use. Thus far our contributions to the table of our Allies have been wholly voluntary. This system, which many rashly

predicted to be absolutely impossible, has on the contrary proved so successful that it is to be extended. Last year we were asked to abstain from certain dishes on fixed days of the week. We did so. This year, though we are asked to save even more than we did last year, yet all needless and wasteful days have been eliminated. Of course, we all immediately determined to comply to the Food Administrator's request. The success of the whole venture, which is in reality a further test of the staunchness of democracy to withstand the severest strain of government, depends upon our keeping this good intention. Our food saving should not be haphazard, despite the freedom permitted by the Government. If it is that, it will be very little. What we must do is to fix, each for himself, his wasteful and needless meals, in the necessary proportion. The next necessity is to observe these restrictions with the same thoroughness that we did last year at the specific request of the Government. If we do this, we will run no risk that the great human failing, procrastination, which has some grip upon all of us, will set at naught our good resolution to be true patriots at the table.—New World.

THE MOTHER'S PART

Lean on his shoulder and kiss him good-by. Show him once more with a fond mother's charms; Steady your voice, mother, tearless your eye, Though thinking of him since a babe in your arms. Breathe on his cheek with his head on your breast. Here, as a child, he sought comfort and rest. Here let him dream for the parting is nigh; Brush back his curls, mother, kiss him good-by.

Lean on his shoulder and kiss him good-by. Press your sweet lips to his tremulous brow; Soon to be thrust where the bullets will fly. His cheek the fair fallow through which all the winds may blow. Smother the anguish that's reading your soul, And as the waves of the ocean that roll, Silence the voices that whisper "He'll die!"

Brush back his curls, mother, kiss him good-by. Lean on his shoulder and kiss him good-by. Say to him, "Darling, be true and be brave." When parting is o'er, then alone you will cry. For the child that is swept from your arms to the grave. The floodgates of anguish now swing wide apart, A tempest of grief thunders forth, From your heart, Where swiftly the arrows of misery pierce.

That your soul held in leash as you kissed him good-by. Lean on their shoulders and kiss them firm and true. The sorrow you adorned since their baby-hood years, Oh! mothers, thy sorrow no mortal can tell. The depths of thy grief or the heat of thy tears; But such is the portion allotted to thee, Thy province hath never of sorrow been free, E'en she who hath mothered our Saviour on high, Leaned on His shoulder and kissed Him good-by. —W. R. DINNEN in Catholic Columbian

LIGHT AT LAST

The light of victory is dawning over Europe at last. French, Belgian, English and American armies are moving on towards a goal desired of every man who hates tyranny and loves freedom. Given our present determination and spirit of sacrifice for a while longer, and the equation of justice will be balanced, once more, never again, be it hoped, to be upset by lust of money or greed of power. Victory is coming, but it is not yet here. Courage and generosity are still in great demand and it would be a serious mistake for even the least of us to relax one iota of our efforts in favor of such a peace that in future the ruin of nations will be rendered not only a moral but a physical impossibility. Without fault of their own innocent peoples have suffered tortures beyond description. For the last few years torment of body and anguish of spirit have been their portion, and these afflictions must not happen again. It is America's duty to see to it that the object for which our young men have sacrificed life and limb be accomplished for once and all. Irrespective of national prepossessions or prejudices the blessings of liberty must be extended to every nation great and small. For such ideals is America fighting. With nothing less will America be satisfied. Our national honor is at stake; time and again this challenge has been flung into the face of a cynical world. "Show us that we are not high-minded; that justice, not hatred or lust of power, has not been our desire." And justice must be the object attained for all, great and small. The blood of our youth will be on our heads else.

THE HOME BANK OF CANADA. "The dollar you spend carelessly will be prudently carried by some other person to the nearest Bank." Full compound interest paid at highest bank rate on Savings Deposits of One Dollar and upwards. Branches and Connections Throughout Canada. London Office: 394 RICHMOND STREET. DELAWARE, ILDERTON, KOMOKA, LAWRENCE STATION, MELBOURNE, THORNDALE.

But despite present victory our aim is yet difficult, not too arduous, however, for generous people who so far have responded nobly to every call of authority, however severe. A few more responses like those of the past and our troops will be in Berlin; and Potsdam, the seat of the intrigue which deluged the world with the blackest of black misery, will witness a treaty that will make it impossible for the passions of the few to objectivate themselves in the tears of widows and children and the blood of brave men. This is our goal, and we shall reach it, though liberty loan pile on liberty loan and "drive" follow drive in the most rapid succession possible.—America.

New Pomerania, an island just south of the equator, with about 200,000 people who were up to a few years ago cannibals, has more than 86 priests, a Bishop, 40 lay brothers and 85 sisters. More than 25,000 Pomeranians have been converted.

MARRIAGE

MOORE-SHEA.—At Peterborough, Ont., on Wednesday, October 16, Mr. John Moore, of Havelock, Ont., to Miss Geraldine Shea, daughter of Mr. William Shea, of Peterborough.

DIED

MCCARRON.—At the residence of his daughter, Mrs. George Goddard, Brampton, Owen McCarron, late of the village of Arthur, aged eighty-six years. May his soul rest in peace.

FOR SALE. TWO HUNDRED AND THIRTY ACRE FARM adapted for stock, dairy or grain, in first class locality. Township of South Norwich, clay lam soil, 10 acres bush, large two story brick house, bank barn 40x25, also second set of buildings, only two miles from good village and three quarters of mile from flag station, within easy driving distance of 3 Roman Catholic churches. Splendid opportunity for a Roman Catholic farmer. The Western Real Estate Exchange Ltd., 78 Dundas St., London, Ont. 2085-1

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\$3.50 VACUUM WASHER \$1.50. THIS AD. WORTH \$2.00 IF SENT IMMEDIATELY. No More Boiling. No More Rubbing. Throw Away Your Washboard! Get a Rapid Vacuum Washer. This is What You Have Been Waiting For! We have purchased the patent rights to manufacture the Famous Fisher-Ford Rapid Vacuum Washer and now have a large stock made up. For advertising purposes we are going to sell a few hundred at cost price, \$1.50. FOR \$1.50 YOU WILL GET A WASHER THAT: Will wash a tub full of anything washable in 3 minutes. Has been awarded prizes over \$50 machines in competition. Will wash the heaviest blankets in 2 minutes. Will save you many dollars a year by not heating out your clothes. Is the best and strongest made. The easiest machine to use. Is capable of washing anything from lace to carpets. Can be operated by a child of ten. Will save you many hours of needless toil and will last you a lifetime. Can be used equally well in boiler or wash tub. Can be dried with a cloth in ten seconds. (Nothing to take apart, nothing to lose.) Will do all we claim for it, or we will return every cent of your money. Send this ad. and only \$1.50 cash to-day before the three o'clock and we will send you the \$1.50 Rapid Vacuum Washer by parcel post to any address. Agents: Wm. Duplex Mfg. Co., Dept. W33, Barrie, Ont.

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TWO QUALIFIED ASSISTANT TEACHERS for High School. One for art and one for science. Duties to begin January 1st, 1919. Apply stating qualifications, experience, and salary expected to H. Ledou, Sec.-Treas., Planting, Ont. 208-3

HOUSEKEEPER WANTED. WIDOWER WITH NO CHILDREN DESIRES first class housekeeper to take full charge of good home. Address J. McIntyre, 121 Langdale Ave., Windsor, Ont. 208-1

WANTED IMMEDIATELY. A PRIEST'S housekeeper in town of Lido, not far from Toronto. A curate kept. Must be good plain cook and tidy housekeeper. A now is kept but looked after by man. Apply to Box 103, CATHOLIC RECORD, London, Ont. 208-2

FEMALE HELP WANTED. PATRIOTIC, STEADY, WELL PAID EMPLOYMENT at home, in war or peace time—knit socks for us on the front, simple Auto Knitter. Particulars today, by stamp. Auto Knitter Company, Dept. C215, 807 College St., Toronto, Ont. 208-14

CHILDREN FOR ADOPTION

HOMES ARE WANTED AS SPEEDILY AS possible for four children of one family. Three girls aged twelve, eight and six, and one boy aged four years. These are all bright, intelligent healthy children who would grow to be a credit to the home in which they might be placed. We would like to place two or three of the children in one home if possible. Applications received by William O'Connor, Children's Branch, 103 University Avenue, Toronto. 208-4

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