

ned from godless, tyranny and slavery, an everlasting allegiance to justice and freedom rooted in God Himself.

"Six sad, mad years the world was drenched in blood and death, but the ugly darkness that covered the earth had not yet lifted, when the finger of history began tracing new and no less fearsome evils upon her tired, tormented face. Then we found, not the promised peace purchased by the precious un-lived lives of our sons - we found, instead, a world still unrelenting and unyielding, steeped in a quagmire of deceptions and disunions, with all nations still planning, pretending and pursuing, but none possessing that just peace which millions of dead men earned for millions of their living brothers!

"For five post-war years men of all nations talked, proposed and planned peace, but even as Thomas a Kempis prophesied over five hundred years ago, "All men desire peace but all do not care for the things that go to make a true peace". And so today there is no peace and once again mankind totters over war's terrible abyss! For peace cannot merely be "declared", nor charted by plans and programs. Peace must be founded on faith - faith in God and in one another, its cornerstone laid on the unchangeable will and law of God, builded strong by the constant good-will of each nation to the other, welded secure by the moral and spiritual contributions of all nations in a common bond of fellowship and friendship.

"But stubbornly, blindly, foolishly men have refused to acknowledge their Creator and to respect their neighbor; and once again peoples are being forced to submit to Satans of godlessness and greed whose intent it is to purge man of his human rights and make him less than beast. Yet no man is born slave to another; each is born free to adore the true God, loving His heart and believing His mind; free to conquer fear of losing God-given rights through godless laws and ungodly foes. Man's rights are his right Divine, eternal to have and to hold against all aggressions, to be cherished not as grants by law or gifts of men of power. Men are free because God is free - and men are His image and likeness.

"These are not times for timid men. These are days in the era of fear when men and women of dauntless faith must promise God to cherish and nourish within their souls their precious heritage, and ceaselessly strive to sanctify themselves and help save a suffering world self-crucified on its cross of sin. It matters not where we live, nor what position in life we hold, whether we be rich or poor, Negro or White, Protestant, Jew or Catholic; by our prayers and our works we must stand strong and united, and live faithful to God, loyal to our country and devoted to our fellowman.

"Unlike the godless who seek to dominate man-

kind by force - desecrating, destroying, pillaging and killing - men of faith must use their powers to help bring mankind within the protecting arms of Christ, the only arms that can capture, defend and save this hate-bitten, fear-crazed world. . . .

"There is a red star burning in the skies these perilous days; a red star that symbolizes the great grief that weighs upon the hearts of countless millions of holy women and noble men, striking terror into their souls, smothering the hopes of humanity's masses. It is a bloody star casting its lurid light of fear upon fettered peoples of enslaved nations, and all men of good-will live in fearful dread of its portent, of the meaning of this red star grotesquely and ominously gleaming.

"But there is another star - a white star of faith aglow in unnumbered churches and shrines through the world where men are free to worship, a white star radiant with the fearless faith of millions of God's followers, its brilliance drawn from the face of the Saviour triumphant over death, its light the light of eternal love, deathless faith and high hope for men's salvation. Symbol of the deepest aspirations of those who truly love their God and their fellowmen, the white star glistens with the graces of innocent children, the sacrifices of saints, the crown of martyrs. Red Star and White Star; Red Star of blood, hate, warfare, enslavement and death; White Star of faith promising those who follow it God's love, salvation, and peace everlasting.

"God of our nation! In this critical hour made solemn by duties, made sacred by trusts, sanctified by prayerful hopes, we implore Thy blessing on this great State of North Carolina. We ask Thee to bless its civic leaders and all the people of its multiple communities. We pray Thee to bless them, to guard them and guide them in the ways of Thy will, unto proper purpose and peace.

"God of our country! Be father to its peoples, to Thy sons and daughters that they may know Thy will, and do Thy will, that this nation may endure, so long as freedom shall endure - the freedom to love in accord with Thy command: to love Thee, and all Thy sons as our brothers!

"O God of Glory! For the sake of Thy glory and our salvation give us guidance to our President, members of the Congress and all our civic authorities, our educational, military, industrial and labor leaders. Make them Thine instruments that the light of Thy mind may be light to their minds, that the love of Thy heart may be love to their hearts, giving them courage and strength, that they may serve in unity of purpose to make our land prosperous and progressive, a haven for the homeless and friendless, a comforter to the helpless and hopeless, teaching them to follow the bright White Star of Faith in this sick and stricken world."