

BOW THE HEAD

APPEAL FOR ALL TO OBEY THE
TOLL OF THE ANGELUS.

When the matter of a universal prayer by the people of America for the welfare and success of our army and those of our allies was brought before our senate, with a suggestion that the custom of the Angelus be used, a discussion arose on the grounds that the plan was so strongly related to one religious sect it was inadvisable to use it. This point was finally overruled, and a broad interpretation being placed on the use of the Angelus as a future American custom it was made the subject of an adoption by the senate requesting President Wilson to issue a proclamation setting aside a time each day when the Angelus would be observed.

From the president this proclamation was sent to the governors of all the states for distribution, and the state of North Carolina adopted the hour of seven each night, though the Charlotteans have selected the hour of 9, nightly, for their observance.

The Angelus is a time-old custom, the derivation and definition of which is: a form of devotion commemorating the Incarnation by repeating three Scripture texts on the mystery, alternating with three Ave Marias, followed by a versicle and response with prayer; so-called from its opening words, Angelus Domini nuntiavit Marie—"the angel of the Lord announced to Mary," and was said at morning, noon and evening at the sound of a bell called the Angelus.

The people of Charlotte have adopted this beautiful custom, and it is now in use, to a more or less limited degree (as we can judge by observance of the people on the streets and in the public places at the time of the Angelus.) The custom was inaugurated for the use of civilian and soldier alike, and including every American man, woman and child. Each night at 9 o'clock the Angelus is rung, and the lights of the city are blinked twice. This is a signal by which every one should stop and bow his head in prayer for the welfare of our soldiers, country, flag and allies, and for ultimate victory consistent with our standards which have been set.

Let us, the men who represent the army of our country, deem it a duty to set an example for the citizens of Charlotte. Let us show them that we can not only wear the uniform of our country with respect, sacrificing what some of us have had to sacrifice, and subscribe to its financial issues as the men of the army have so magnificently done, but that we can acutely respect our comrades who are at the present time plunging into the thick of the fight, bravely facing death for the liberty and life of not only their loved ones, but for their countrymen alike. Let us appreciate that we are here, safe, amid the comforts of life, while those, our comrades are "over there" fighting for the very existence of our country and its code of morals. Observance of the Angelus shows a public recognition

the advantages of which are manifold. Even a man who feels he is not what we term "a religious man," and therefore feels that he cannot make, or does not know how to make a prayer for his fellow-men, let him raise his hat at the sound of the Angelus and make a mental picture of his comrades who are in the midst of the fight. It will at least make him think.

What a beautiful sight it would be to see all men in uniform stop in their tracks at the sound of the Angelus, raising their hats in a respectful, silent prayer. What an impression it would make on the civilians at large, and what an example it would set. Some of us have loved ones or dear friends "over there," who, this very night, may be fighting, wounded, or perhaps may have made the immortal sacrifice of their life, or lives, that our democracy and standards of honor may live for eternity.

If even from a standpoint of respect alone let us observe the Angelus. What would our comrades who are momentarily facing death think of those of us who continue, unheeding, this call to prayer? Those of us who continue our walk, our talk, our amusement, or even our momentary necessity for those two minutes, or for at least a part of them. This question can best be answered by the individual, but when we neglect the acknowledgement of the Angelus let us ask ourselves this question and if we but frankly answer it hide our faces in shame.

When a nation of more than one hundred and ten million bows its head in a daily prayer for the welfare of our democracy, flag, country, soldiers, allies, and all they represent, and for the ultimate outcome of the war, there is but one answer—VICTORY.

—By Lieut. C. F. Harvey, Jr., Quartermaster.

A TRIBUTE TO MOTHER.

Remember this, my soldier lads,
Wherever you may be
In this our own beloved land
Or miles across the sea.

There's one sweetheart whose love is
sure
When all is said and done,
You may depend unto the end
On her who calls you son.

And don't forget my sailor lads
That eyes that are more bright
May gaze into your own dear eyes
With love's bewitching light.

There's one dear lonely heart at home
So when your tasks are done
Sit down and write to her tonight—
To the one who calls you son.

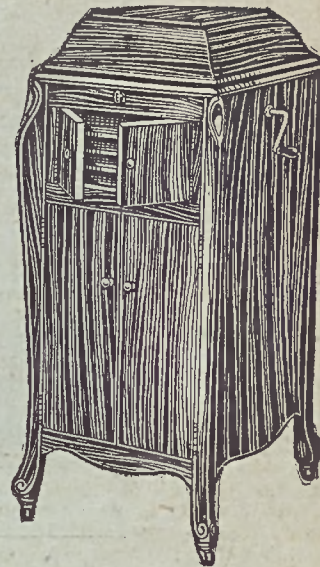
Yes, soldier lads and sailor lads
Of our loved U. S. A.
Enjoy your sweethearts you are young
We would not say you nay.

But let your thoughts oft wander back
To that dear lovely one
Who's kneeling there to breathe a
prayer

For the one that she calls son.

—By Patient A. C. Hoffman.

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