

"THE GREATEST OF THESE IS LOVE"

"Love suffereth long and is kind,—

"Love never faileth,—

"And if I have the gift of prophecy and know all knowledge, so as to remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing"

—From 1 Corinthians, 13.

That love "which seeketh not it's own" has worked through these hell-filled days of war towards a finer respect for those who preach "the unsearchable riches." The minister of the gospel has come down into the trenches, when so called, in order to bring the message of hope and of life eternal to his brothers who wallow in the blood and mire because of their unshakable belief in the ideal of justice.

It is not for any man to question the living power of Christianity when its teachers stumble across the shell torn terrains to minister to their fallen brethren; when they kneel amid the chaos of raining shells to lift the dying soldier's head so that failing eyes may view the cross.

It is not for us, who have felt the spell of the gospel as delivered from the pulpits of Charlotte churches, to cast any reflection upon the clergymen of this city. From the public life and apparent ideals of the people of Mecklenburg county we know that ministry has been sincere and true.

We, who have stepped into line to willingly endure whatever ends the struggle for human freedom may bring, do feel, however, the right to honor courage in every form in which it shows itself.

When one of the nurses of the U. S. Army Base Hospital, Camp Greene, had fallen a victim to the Spanish grip, from her efforts to care for the many influenza patients brought to her ward, and when it was understood that her own battle against the disease was a losing fight and the span of life almost ended, a sister nurse was dispatched to summon a minister. The telephone was used to call a Charlotte pastor and to tell him to hasten to the hospital in order to minister the last words of comfort to the stricken nurse.

"Is it the influenza?" asked the clergyman, who was summoned because the nurse whose weakening breath asked to hear again of "the joys that fade not away," had been a part of his Sabbath congregation several times.

"It is the influenza and pneumonia," answered the woman at the hospital end of the telephone.

"I cannot come. I would not dare take such a chance as that. I have myself to consider," nervously responded the pastor.

The nurse who was calling hung up the telephone receiver. Her eyes were wide in the wonder of it all. It had not occurred to her that a sister, whose existence had been a sacrifice for others and who had given her life in the ministry of mercy, could be denied a parting word of comfort from a teacher in the ministry of love.

Other calls were made and promptly obeyed. A priest and a protestant minister were at the bedside in the last minutes, bringing the final promise of eternal cheer to her whose last work had been the labor of compassion which almost surpasseth understanding.

It is not for us to question the motives of the preacher who could not come. We are not called upon to judge the weakness of the flesh. He was sure, no doubt, that his position demands that he give all the energies of his good health to the delivery of the message of the abiding grace of faith, hope and love, of which the greatest is love

"Love beareth all things, endureth all things,—

"Love never faileth,—

"If I speak with the tongues of men and of angels but have not love, I am become sounding brass and a clanging cymbal."

—From 1 Corinthians 13.

K. of C. Secretaries Downie, O'Toole and Stanzola have been kept pretty busy at the Base Hospital since the influenza broke out in this camp, especially Secretary Downie, who deserves great credit for his untiring efforts for the past week. Secretary Stanzola has been taking care of the boys by seeing that they are supplied with writing paper, etc., while our friend O'Toole has been doing a good deal of writing for the boys to their mothers, sisters and sweethearts. tive communities and national organizations.

In November a joint campaign is to be conducted by the seven recognized societies doing welfare work among the American soldiers at home and overseas. The American people will be asked to give \$170,000,000 to the organizations to be divided as follows: Y. M. C. A. \$100,000,000; Y. W. C. A. \$15,000,000; National Catholic War Council (including work of Knights of Columbus and special war activities of women) \$30,000,000; Jewish Welfare Board \$3,500,000; American Library Association \$3,500,000; War Camp Community Service \$15,000,000;

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