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Raleigh Christian Advocate

Organ of the North Carolina Conference.

SIXTY-FOURTH YEAR.

RALEIGH, N. C., JUNE 13, 1918.

NUMBER 19.

Danger!

WILLIAM A. QUAYLE, For the Board of Bishops.

This World War clamors across the sky. We can hardly hear any other music. Thunder is hard to talk against. The American people and Methodism are as one. Methodism has no minority report on this vast battle. We are not pacifists; we fight with God for a safe world, for a decent world, for a world with a chance to be virtuous, for a Christian world.

Just because Methodism is so patriotic to the United States of America and to the united states of the planet, it is experiencing a subtle danger. That danger is that the Church should in any wise silence its own heavenly music. Patriotism is a lesser majesty than the gospel. Methodism must preach both majesties. The gospel must not be stifled by any business, however worthy. It need not be. There is a more amazing trumpet than a battle trumpet. It is the gospel-trumpet.

Have a care, Methodism, lest in the revel of patriotism we become unconsciously remiss in the highest patriotism, namely, the proclamation and practice of spirituality, the preaching of Jesus the Saviour, of the glory and necessity of the new birth, of the pressing character of redemption, of the insistent ministry of immortality in these battle days of death, of the necessity of Christianity above all the things this battling world needs, to the end that this world War may eventuate in a world peace, at whose heart dwells righteousness.

The Sunday-school, in particular, must be guarded against a threatened falling off. Christian men and women must not less but more hold hard to the gospel. Sunday-school teachers and Sunday-school helps must speak in certain terms of Christianity and of Christian theology. Sunday-school and Church were never so greatly needed. The Church must hold to its Sunday-school, its prayer meeting, its Sunday service, its prayer, its sanctity of soul. Every Church agency must be as vital as the resurrection morning. Preacher and Sunday-school teacher and every Church member must love Christ and talk Christ and practice Christ to the uttermost.

Beware! Danger, lest in our ferid activities our Christian fervor abate. Danger! Methodism, to your knees!