

discovery of animal magnetism, Mrs. Eddy, in the United States, published the textbook of Christian Science, "Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures," in which the nature and operation of animal magnetism are analyzed, its powerlessness and unreality exposed, and the method for its destruction is set forth. Not since the days of Jesus and the apostles had one arisen with the spiritual vision to discern the Science of the infinity of good, with its correlative truth that evil, the illusion that has mesmerized mankind with its false suggestions, is a lie.

Thus the entrance of the United States into the war meant something more than just another nation added to the ranks of the Allies, more than ships and money and millions of men. It meant that that branch of modern Israel in which the prophecy of the reappearing of the healing Christ has been fulfilled, was in reality bringing this truth of Christian Science into the conflict with evil, although this metaphysical fact may not be generally seen or acknowledged. It is coming to be recognized more and more every day that the enemy in this warfare is not flesh and blood, therefore that something besides flesh and blood will have to be put into the struggle. The final victory over evil, it is needless to say, will have to come through the understanding of divine Principle, not through the mere killing of men.

Although the necessity for choosing between the lesser and the greater evil may even have taken Christian Scientists into the carnage of battle, they know that the mission of Christian Science is to bring freedom from evil to all mankind. Truth has no conflict with men or nations, but only with the mesmerism of evil suggestion that holds human beings, to a greater or lesser degree, in its illusion. In the present upheaval error has been stirred to its lowest depths of infamy, but only that its nothingness might be wrought out, and the Godlikeness of the real man be revealed. When the peoples who are fighting against the freedom of the world awaken from the self-deception of evil, and turn from their selfish ideals to seek the better things of the kingdom of heaven, they will be received again into the fellowship of the nations. "Christian Science," writes Mrs. Eddy (*Science and Health*, p. 227), "raises the standard of liberty and cries: 'Follow me! Escape from the bondage of sickness, sin, and death!' Jesus marked out the way. Citizens of the world, accept the 'glorious liberty of the children of God,' and be free! This is your divine right."

The "impersonal pastor"

SARAH M. FREEMAN WILLIAMS

IN 1895 when Mrs. Eddy ordained the Bible and the Christian Science textbook, "Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures," to be pastor for all Christian Science churches, I well remember the remarks of a dear friend, who was then only slightly interested in Christian Science, that if the personal sermon should be done away with, it would be only a question of time before the denomination itself would disappear. In "Miscellaneous Writings" (p. 383) Mrs. Eddy says: "In 1896 it goes without saying, preeminent over ignorance or envy, that Christian Science is *founded by its discoverer*, and built upon the rock of Christ. . . . Erect and eternal, it will go on with the ages, go down the dim posterns of time unharmed, and on every battle-field rise higher in the estimation of thinkers and in the hearts of Christians."

Those of us who have followed the Christian Science movement have seen this prophetic utterance fulfilled, and our hearts have gone out in gratitude for the impersonal pastor. Our Leader established two forms of service for

this movement, the Sunday service, at which the "Word" is read, and the Wednesday evening testimony or experience meeting, at which the fruits of the "Word" are given as proof of the practical nature of its teachings. The Sunday service is virtually prepared for the church, while the Wednesday evening meeting for the giving of testimonies depends upon the demonstration of the Christian Scientists, both as individuals and as a church; hence the great need of metaphysical activity in order to give to one's self and to the world the proof of the availability of divine Principle, God, as divine Love, in healing sickness and destroying sin.

The "Explanatory Note" in *The Christian Science Quarterly*, the reading of which precedes the reading of the Lesson-Sermon, is a very essential part of the Sunday service, inasmuch as it proclaims the vital relation between the Bible and the Christian Science textbook as used in the Lesson-Sermon. This may remind us of the prophecy found in the fourth chapter of Zechariah where we have presented a golden candlestick "with a bowl upon the top of it," from which is poured oil into seven pipes. We also read of two olive trees, from the branches of which comes "the golden oil" which supplies the light, and respecting which the angel said, in answer to Zechariah's inquiry, "These are the two anointed ones, that stand by the Lord of the whole earth." This also recalls the "two witnesses" mentioned in Revelation.

The subjects chosen for the Lesson-Sermons have been likened to the great diapason of heaven: first, God, followed by Sacrament; then, the terms which in Christian Science are synonyms for God, namely, Life, Truth, Love, Spirit, Soul, Mind; next, in order of arrangement, are Christ Jesus, Man, Substance, Matter, Reality, Unreality, and so on. As divine theology is unfolded throughout the series, all falsities and counterfeits are exposed, and finally we reach "Christian Science," that which has brought to human apprehension the Science of the Christ, which is "for the healing of the nations." These subjects, chosen and arranged by our Leader, contain within themselves the elements of all true metaphysical teaching, and are like the great theme of life's symphony, eternally elaborating the unity of God, man, and the universe. In the words of John, "And this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent."

On page 322 of "Miscellaneous Writings" our Leader states, "Your dual and impersonal pastor, the Bible and 'Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures,' is with you; and the Life these give, the Truth they illustrate, the Love they demonstrate, is the great Shepherd that feedeth my flock, and leadeth them 'beside the still waters.'" In the years that have intervened since these words were written, lesson after lesson, sermon after sermon, has proved to a vast company of witnesses that the great Shepherd is feeding His flock.

As an illustration of this an experience of the past year stands out preeminently. One Sunday morning a father and a mother were just leaving their home for church, when a cable from the War Department was handed to them announcing that one of their four sons "at the front" had been "killed in action." They did not even turn back into the house, but quietly decided that their church was the place to which they most wanted to go. The subject of the Lesson-Sermon that morning was "Probation After Death," and they said it was to them a memorial service for their dear boy,—the hymns, the responsive reading, all supplied their great human need. They returned to their home sustained, strengthened, and uplifted. At the service mentioned above, another member was present who had received word during the same week

that his brother was reported as "missing" after the battle of Vimy Ridge, where so many brave Canadians won immortal honor. Did not our Master say, "Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends"?

The "Explanatory Note" in the *Quarterly* becomes most illuminating, as the "Scriptural texts, and their correlative passages" are found applicable to present needs, thus proving they are, as it says, "divinely authorized." A great sense of gratitude is continually felt for the faithful work of the Bible Lesson committee in arranging these Lesson-Sermons which meet the human needs of the hour, both individual and collective, and thus our Leader's Message to The Mother Church for 1901 (p. 11) is being daily fulfilled. She says: "The Word of God is a powerful preacher, and it is not too spiritual to be practical, nor too transcendental to be heard and understood. Whosoever saith there is no sermon without personal preaching, forgets what Christian Scientists do not, namely, that God is a Person, and that he should be willing to hear a sermon from his personal God!"

Enlisted for Active Service

LILLIAN B. BEEDE

ON page 450 of "Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures" our beloved Leader says, "The Christian Scientist has enlisted to lessen evil, disease, and death." An expression of our allegiance to our cause, when we enlist for active service, is found in the following quotation from the tenets of The Mother Church (Science and Health, p. 497): "And we solemnly promise to watch, and pray for that Mind to be in us which was also in Christ Jesus; to do unto others as we would have them do unto us; and to be merciful, just, and pure."

In these days when the words "enlistment" and "service" have been telling every loyal heart in the length and breadth of our dear country the need of courage and unselfish devotion to the cause of human freedom, the thoughtful Christian Scientist finds in them an even greater significance. Nearly half a century ago, at a time when the American nation had entered into a peaceful period after its great struggle for the abolishing of slavery, a God-inspired voice was raised demanding for all humanity a freedom, the full import of which was at that time beyond the comprehension of the world. This leader of a new army, whose battle ground was to be the plane of human thought, has sounded the clarion call to thinkers with these words (Science and Health, p. 227): "Christian Science raises the standard of liberty and cries: 'Follow me! Escape from the bondage of sickness, sin, and death!' Jesus marked out the way. Citizens of the world, accept the 'glorious liberty of the children of God,' and be free! This is your divine right."

The world is ever reluctant to accept a newly discovered idea. It justly demands that the recognition of any such must depend upon demonstrable and not merely theoretical truth. Enlistments under the standard of Christian Science, as the years of patient endeavor proved its truth, steadily increased in number, until to-day the whole human race is being benefited by those who "wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places." Mortal mind craves peace, the false peace, in which it may enjoy undisturbed its sensual pleasures. When stirred to warfare it is merely for the purpose of preserving for itself the right to a peaceful indulgence in sin, or of greedily securing more material to feed

its hungry desires. It regards with disfavor any influence which would awaken it from its hypnotic complacency in self-righteousness; for the persistent outgoing of truth is a great disturber to error. Those who have "enlisted to lessen evil, disease, and death," should be keenly alert to their responsibilities in these days of world chemicalization. The spiritualization of thought everywhere is the reserve force that must be and will be the decisive factor in the defeat of error.

Christian Scientists are all enlisted for "active service," whether at home or in other lands, each under the flag of his country and also under the tenets of The Mother Church. Inactivity on the part of any citizen in these days of world need is inexcusable. The plea of lack of time, ability, understanding, is only the argument of the enemy. There is no lack. Every one engaged in the spiritual warfare against error is provided with the proper equipment and protection. He has both the Bible and "Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures," which unlocks it to his understanding; he is given the protective armor of Truth and Love, through which no poisonous exhalations of hatred can penetrate. Mortal belief cannot clip the wings of spiritual thought, which soars above the limitations of time and space, and unfolds throughout eternity.

No disappointment as to active service need confront the Christian Scientist. It is his own fault if he is not actively engaged from the moment of his enlistment. It matters not where he is, or what may be his seeming position or occupation, every hour of the day affords him wondrous opportunities for spiritual activity in actual warfare with error, which means not only victory over his own material sense, but ultimately a victory in the world thought. In the stress of the present hour the plea for "yet a little sleep, a little slumber, a little folding of the hands to sleep," is unheeded by those who have enlisted for active service wherever they may best serve God and humanity.

The World War

GRAY MONTGOMERY

IT is clear to thinking people that all existence, indeed every phase of human experience, is purely a thought experience. Without thought there could be no life, no action, no intelligence. While seeming to be in a material world, we are living in a mental universe, and have as mortals but a vague sense of the real spiritual universe of God's creating. We see that all warfare must be in the mental realm, although not always expressed by physical violence. "This material world is even now becoming the arena for conflicting forces," is the ringing declaration of Mrs. Eddy on page 96 of Science and Health, written decades before the world-wide outbreak of war between the nations.

Christian Scientists, in common with all humanity, are confronted with the magnitude of the problems resulting from the world war. In their mental work, in their spiritual realization of the omnipotence of Truth and Love, Christian Scientists are doing their utmost for humanity. Through the prayer of spiritual understanding, they know that they can effectually aid in the accomplishment of that true and permanent peace which is based upon the victory of Truth over error, of Principle over the forces of evil, of Love over tyranny and materialism. The world to-day is in the throes of a momentous change taking place in the consciousness of practically every man and woman on this plane of human existence.

Students of Christian Science are confident that Jesus