

# WISDOM IS REVEALED AS LASTING GAS

## Rev. W. G. Eliot Thinks Real Peace Never Will Be Established Until People Abandon Policy of Selfishness and Willingly Send Their Aid to the Feeble.

BY W. G. ELIOT, JR.,  
Church of Our Father.

It is as if we have done it up into the coat of arms of the world, and have done it into me.—Matthew xxv, 40.

THESE words are from a Messianic parable in which the King, not of subjects but of brothers, declares that an act of helpfulness to one of the least of those brothers is not only for that brother, but also for the King himself.

We are so used to the familiar message that we fail to appreciate the profound significance of the philosophy of human society and of human service here expressed. And much less, perhaps, do we realize its special significance for the present hour.

For the world is drenched with blood because a contrary view of human society has dominated, internationally and personally.

We are thinking especially today of international peace, and we are earnestly desirous that the war soon may end. There are some among us, however, who, not always with unkind motives, are agitating the King, not of subjects but of brothers, to declare that an act of helpfulness to one of the least of those brothers is not only for that brother, but also for the King himself.

That the United States desires that the war should cease goes without saying and needs no special propaganda or agitation. That the Administration will act in the interest of peace at the earliest moment, perhaps is acting already, we all know.

But the concerted action by the people of our country, or by any considerable group of them, may hinder rather than help unless under wise guidance or in co-operation with the Administration. The underlying cause of the war is not, as we are so apt to do, but to be ignored. Any peace activity in our country, unless carefully guarded in its teaching and implications, may make it hard for our Nation to help when the time comes.

Our situation already is difficult enough without this running cleavage of opinion. Germany protests that we are not neutral enough; England complains that we are too neutral, and from the point of view, our usefulness in any mediatorial capacity may be impaired.

I am constrained, therefore, to forego any extended plea for the daily cessation of the war and to turn now to what I believe to be a matter of paramount moment now and perennially—the underlying cause of all wars, and, until remedied, the underlying necessity and possible justification of future wars.

On one hand we are taught after the analogy of organic evolution that all wars are the weak and the strong nations, and that the relation of strong man to weak man, and of strong nation to weak nation, afford legitimate opportunity for exploitation and domination rather than for helpfulness and co-operation.

The war cannot justly be blamed on any one nation exclusively, for the reason that the present cannot entirely disconnect with the past, and that in the past all the nations have been guilty of the same.

This war will not end war-potentially there will be as much war as ever, unless a sufficient number of people and nations shall abandon the policy of selfishness for policies of generosity and justice. War will not cease from the world until it has ceased from the social philosophy and social motive. So-called peace is only war asleep until men know and practice a genuine peace.

By genuine peace I mean something different from mere personal serenity—that is something which under some circumstances may be hazardous. No, do I mean a nation's peace when merely incident to total defencelessness. There are some nations for which, under present conditions, the only peace would be fatuous. I mean by genuine peace, as contrasted with war, the underlying philosophy of social life and the faithful practice of the same.

We are confronted by a plain issue. On one hand we are taught after the analogy of organic evolution that all wars are the weak and the strong nations, and that the relation of strong man to weak man, and of strong nation to weak nation, afford legitimate opportunity for exploitation and domination rather than for helpfulness and co-operation.



First Unitarian Church

Worship at 10:30 a. m. and 7:30 p. m. on Sunday. The church is located at 11th and Commercial streets, Portland, Oregon. Services are held in the sanctuary, which is a beautiful example of Gothic architecture. The church has a long history and is one of the oldest in the city. It is a member of the Unitarian Universalist Association.

## Sunday Services in City Churches

### CHURCH NOTICES DUE THURSDAY

Church notices for the Sunday Oregonian should be in this office by Thursday at 5 P. M. It is not possible to accept notification of any notices after that hour.

### ADVENTISTS

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## MANY OPERA SINGERS WILL BRAVE DANGERS ONSEAS TO RETURN HOME

New York Season Nearing End and Even Campanini Is to Sail for Italy—Mme. Destinn Probably Will Open Concert Tour in Portland—Geraldine Farrar Considers Offer to Appear in Movies.

### BY EMILIE FRANCES BAUER.

NEW YORK, April 17.—(Special.)—With the opera season within a week of the close, all the symphony orchestras closed and all the regular series of concerts completed, the season here at the Metropolitan Opera House is drawing to a close.

It is a fact that had Scotti been engaged to sing at the Metropolitan Opera House, he would have had a similar opportunity. Scotti has had under consideration offers of contracts from almost every first producer in this country and in Europe. It is interesting to note, however, that up to the present time