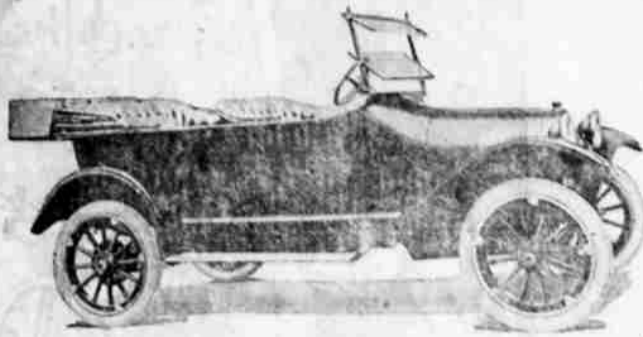


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PEACE NOT TO END CHURCH WAR WORK

Service of the Chaplains Needed to Solve Perplexing Problems Affecting Soldiers' and Sailors' Lives.

CAMP SIDE CHURCHES HELP.

National Service Commission Going Straight On With All Activities. Money Needed to Equip and Sustain Army Chaplains.

Peace and reconstruction will not end, or, for a time, slacken the work of the churches among the soldiers and sailors.

"We are going straight on with all of our activities," said Dr. Ford C. Ottman, secretary of the Presbyterian National Service Commission, 156 Fifth Avenue, New York City. "They are as much needed now as they were before the war, and as long as there are such needs they will be met."

In common with most leading denominations, the Presbyterians are equipping their own chaplains as far as possible. The General Assembly of the Church authorized the National Service Commission to secure a fund from the members of \$100,000 for this purpose, and John T. Manson, president of the First National Bank of New Haven, Conn., chairman of the commission's camp activities committee, says this sum ought to be doubled in order to relieve every minister of the expense, himself. Hundreds of these ministers have given up their churches to do this work and few of them are financially able to equip themselves for it, for each man needs, aside from his uniform, a typewriter outfit, communion sets, hymnbooks, a bicycle or motorcycle and some cash.

The committee on chaplains has been supplying these wants, but at a maximum of only \$500 per man. The Service Commission asks for of \$750 and a maximum man and is asking that

rites meet those needs.

Campside Churches.

In addition to the great work of the chaplains in the camps the National Service Commission has helped to sustain fifteen "campside churches" in towns and cities near camps. It has maintained twenty-six workmen in these places. The results achieved are said to solve many of the most perplexing problems affecting the moral and social side of the soldiers' and sailors' lives. These "campside churches" are open always to the boys and the pastors of them are counselors and advisers of the boys and are very popular among them. At these "campside churches" young people, those from the camps and from the towns, meet in wholesome social intercourse. The influence and associations of these "campside churches" help tide many a homesick boy over hard places.

"We must continue that work, and that means," said Dr. Ottman, "that the Presbyterian Church must continue to supply the money for it in increasing sums."

The "camp pastor" has gone from the Army. He went under an order of the War Department, although the chaplain remains. The National Service Commission supported seventy-nine "camp pastors" and would like to have had the privilege of continuing to support them.

"These men did great work," said Dr. Ottman, "work that lives in the lives of the soldiers and does not end with a pastor's going, but we're sorry he had to go."

Thousands Are Converted.

"Did the boys respond to the 'camp pastor's' work?"

"The question may find an answer," said Dr. Ottman, "in the fact that in one embarkation camp 5,000 before going overseas were converted under a Presbyterian 'camp pastor.' No man was more devoted to his work. This 'camp pastor' in four months wrote 14,000 letters to the parents or nearest kin of 14,000 boys who had come under his influence. But that is only one item in the pastor's program. Responsive? Why conversions—to Christianity, not to denominationalism—rolled in at the rate of 4,000 or 5,000 a month for several months; and, indeed, in one case they went as high as 2,010 in a single week."

Secretary Daniels has regarded the "camp pastor" as too valuable a factor in the life of the sailor to let him go and so he is still at work in the Navy.

"The most trying days are ahead or at hand," says Dr. Ottman, "for with war over, hope of getting into active fighting gone, our virile American youth begins to adjust himself to the less thrilling task of bidding his time for whatever the period of reconstruction may have to offer him. Now as never before he needs the help of the National Service Commission of all the churches. Every denomination engaged in this work realizes this fact. That is why we are urging our people to help in every good work. The Presbyterian Church is preparing to give \$500,000 for the repatriation and education of boys returning from the front and \$500,000 for stricken churches of all Protestant faiths in France, Belgium and Italy. Nor are we certainly not going to let down on the work which we have been doing for the boys in the camps and over seas."

Wheat Products Exports.

Sir William Gosse of the British food ministry, says that from July 1917, to April 1918, the United States exported to the allies 80,000,000 bushels of wheat products. Of this it is asserted that 50,000,000 bushels represented voluntary sacrifices by the American people in their consumption of wheat.

Real Vacation.

"You say you are on a vacation?" "Yes," replied the philosophical person. "For the next few weeks I am going to quit riding on the cars or talking about the weather."

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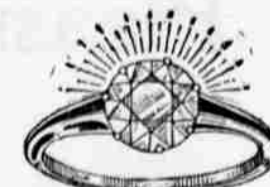
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