

## Sign Boards on the Up-road

By Hamilton B. Williams

Ronald Hankey's book, "A Soldier in Arms," should be read by every one.

He went out himself in 1916 leading his men "over the top," but his soul is marching on.

He discusses the matter of the common man's religion, and the following paragraphs by Washington Gladden are of interest to all thoughtful people.

Mr. Hankey testifies that most of these men in the trenches had a genuine faith in the things which really count — "they certainly did believe in unselfishness, generosity, charity, and humility. But it was doubtful whether they ever connected these qualities with the profession and practice of Christianity." How had it come about that these men had learned to respect these things which are heart of Christianity, and had never suspected themselves of having an interest in Christianity? Who was to blame that the thing itself and the name of the thing had been so separated in their minds?

Mr. Hankey gives a sketch which shows the working of the soldier's mind: "It was when we had got out of Flanders and were on the eve of our first visit to the trenches that we heard the first definite attempt to discuss religion, and then it was only two or three who took part. The remainder just listened. It was bed-time and we were all lying close together on the floor of a tent. We were to go into the trenches for the first time the next day. We thought that every one was feeling just a little awed. Unfortunately we had just been to an open-air service, where the chaplain had made desperate attempts to frighten us. The result was just what might have been expected. We were all rather indignant. We might be a little bit frightened inside, but we were not going to admit it. Above all we were not going to turn religious at the last minute because we were afraid. Some one began to scoff at the Old Testament, David and Bathsheba, Jonah and the whale, and so forth. Another capped him by laughing at the feeding of the five thousand. A third said that in his opinion any one who pretended to be a Christian in the Army must be a humbug. The sergeant major was fabulously apologetic and shocked, and applied the closure by putting out the light and ordering silence.

"It was not much, but enough to convince me that the soldier does not in the least connect the things that he really believes in with Christianity. He thinks that Christianity consists in believing the Bible and setting up to be better than your neighbors. By believing the Bible he means believing that Jonah was swallowed by the whale, by setting up to be better than our neighbors he means not drinking, not smoking, being close-fisted with your money, avoiding the companionship of doubtful characters and refusing to acknowledge that such have any claim on you.

"This is surely nothing short of tragedy. Here were men who believed absolutely in the Christian virtues of unselfishness, generosity, charity and humility without ever connecting them in their minds with Christ; and, at the same time, what they did associate with Christianity was just on a par with the formalism and smug self-righteousness which Christ spent His whole life in trying to destroy."

In the first months of the war we read many reports of the great religious awakening which was taking place in the belligerent countries; about thronged churches and a great increase in the interest of the people in their services. Such temporary awakenings are apt to attend the outbreak of war, but a reaction usually follows, and the audiences are depleted, and the enthusiasm abates. At the close of our Revolutionary war the churches were nearly deserted; at the close of the Napoleonic war there was a great dearth of religion; and our Civil war was followed by some unfruitful years. All the indications are that this war will close with a dearth in the religious life of the people.

Is not this the reason—that we have been swathing Him with unreality, draping Him in illusion, attributing to Him character and qualities that are not His, looking for Him in the wrong places, expecting of Him conduct which is contrary to His nature? In peaceful and uneventful hours we rest in these unrealities, and do not discover their illusiveness, but in hours of storm and stress we are driven to test them and we find they are fictions.

So far as this state of mind prevails it will be, of course, the fault of the churches. There are no interests deeper or more perma-

nent in the human soul than the interests of religion. If the people have gone thru this war, when the need of the reality of religion was so constant and imperative with a steadily diminishing confidence in the reality of such religion as they have been in contact with, it is certain that the religion that has been shown them has something radically wrong about it.

In fact the war itself is an overpowering demonstration of the truth that religion before the war was a radical and deadly failure. If the religion before the war in all the countries had been real religion—if it had been the religion of Jesus Christ—there would have been no war. So long as the kind of religion prevails which was in vogue when the war broke out, we shall never

get rid of war. If we really want an enduring peace after this war, we shall have to get a different kind of religion.

### A WOMAN'S BACK

The Advice of This Andover Woman is of Certain Value

Many a woman's back has many aches and pains. Oft times 'tis the kidneys' fault. That's why Doan's Kidney Pills are so effective. Many Andover women know this.

Read what one has to say about it: Mrs. R. Engle, Maple St., says: "The first symptom of kidney complaint in any case was back-ache. When I washed or ironed twinges of pain caught me in my kidneys, nearly driving me wild."

I felt as if I were when I was and hands there were many kidney disorders.

Doan's Kidney Pills at Brundage Drug of the attack and different woman.

Price 60c, at all drug stores. Simply ask for a kidney get Doan's Kidney Pills same that Mrs. Engle's Milburn Co., Andover, N. Y.

A prospering store most of its advertising service, its price, its exclusive stock, does not have plenty of advertising material, will course, not do much advertising, nor much prospering.



### GIFT CHINA

Nowhere will you find a more beautiful collection of China than in the Tuttle & Rockwell Basement, and extensive display of pieces for decorative or gift purposes. French and Nippon China, English China in many pretty designs and exclusive pieces of one of a kind.

Also a fine assortment of the newest in Glassware.

You'll find hundreds of suggestions in our China Department.

(Basement)

### Handkerchiefs

They're on every single holiday gift list and there are thousands of them here from which to select, for our collection is most complete whether it's a simple hemstitched, initial, embroidered or lace trimmed Handkerchief. Our large assortment is ample enough to meet every demand and prices are attractively low.

(Main Floor)

### Women's Sweaters

They make a most practical gift. Our assortment includes all the wanted qualities as well as many novelties. All in a wide range of colors and styles. Sweaters for children are also here in a splendid variety.

(Second Floor)

### Lingerie

Fashioned from dainty white and flesh color materials. Some plain, others trimmed with lace or hand embroidered. All are reliable makes and the assortments are large.

(Second Floor)

### HOLIDAY BOOKS

Large Assortments (Basement)

### Blankets

Who could resist the soothing influence of such warm and beautiful Blankets as are to be found at Tuttle & Rockwell's? You will find them to be of as fine a quality as they are beautiful.

(Main Floor)

### Leather Goods

We are displaying a splendid assortment of Hand Bags—very newest styles and leathers; besides many other novelties of leather, such as Purses, Address Books, Manicure Sets, Shopping Lists, etc.

(Main Floor)

### A Victrola From Tuttle & Rockwell's

Will make a Merry Musical Christmas for you and all the family. You can get a Victrola here as low as \$15.00, and now we have all the popular favorites in stock. Easy payments if desired.

(Third Floor)

### OUR ART SHOP

Offers Many Suggestions (Second Floor)

## It's Time You Were Christmas Shopping In Earnest - - A Few More Shopping Days

This great Christmas Store is splendidly ready to help you. Also you will enjoy the morning shopping hours.

### The Gift For Everybody

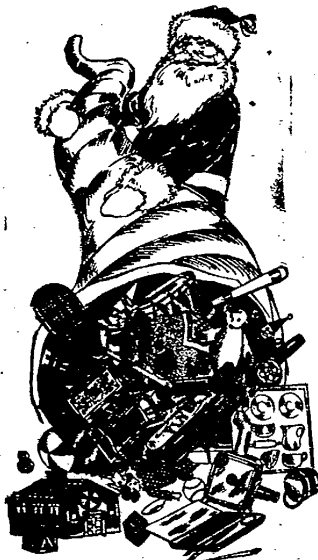
Snow flakes today reminders of Santa Claus and an Umbrella gift.



Raindrops—perhaps tomorrow and an Umbrella is a welcome protection.

You're making a good choice when you choose an Umbrella too many in a home. There can't be to give away at Christmas. A man always likes to find one within reach. Here you will find a large assortment to select from in Women's and Men's styles.

(Main Floor)



## Our Toyland Is Full Of Surprises

You never heard such a merry din as our Toyland in full blast can make, with all the little engines, electrical toys, and more and more toys of every imaginable sort. You'll know "Toyland is open" the moment you enter the store.

(Basement)

### Why Not A Corduroy Bathrobe

They are very pretty. These Corduroy Velvet Bathrobes. Colors are rose and blue; full cut kimono style. Many other dainty Kimonos and Bathrobes are shown.

(Second Floor)

### Neckwear

Typically feminine as a gift because of its extreme daintiness and smart styles. Here you will find all the very latest styles. Broadcloth Collar and Cuff Sets, New Satin Collar and Cuff Sets, New Georgette Crepe Collars, New Pique Collars in all the new shades.

(Main Floor)

### The Gift Umbrellas

Our Umbrellas have arrived—beautiful styles and a wonderfully large assortment. All reliable makes, best of materials, strong frames and hundreds of styles in fancy and plain handles. In fact, the finest display of Umbrellas that we have ever shown. Umbrellas for men, women and children.

(Main Floor)

### Christmas Slippers

All sizes for women and children. A large variety of kinds and styles. Our Alaska Moccasins are designed for solid comfort and are shown in a pleasing variety of styles and colors to suit every taste. Also a splendid line of Crocheted Slippers.

(Main Floor)

### Beautiful Turkish Towels

Fancy Turkish Towels are here by the hundreds, and every one of them is truly beautiful in design and quality. Both guest and large size are shown and all are extra good values at the prices marked.

(Main and Second Floor)

### CHRISTMAS RIBBONS

All Kinds and Qualities (Main Floor)

### Bathrobe Blankets

We have just received a shipment of new Bathrobe Blankets. They're beautiful and we suggest that you see them as soon as possible. All new patterns with cord and frog to match.

(Main Floor)

# Tuttle & Rockwell Company

103-109 Main St.

"The Christmas Store"

Hornell

## THE COURT

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