

## FIRST WORLD WAR

Advertisements from

*The Methodist Recorder,*  
AND  
GENERAL CHRISTIAN CHRONICLE.

# 1914

## The Articles



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The President to the  
Wesleyan Methodist  
People



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Wesley's Chapel Manse

49, City Road, London EC

My Dear Friends, -

I am sure that you have given yourselves to prayer in the world crisis which has so suddenly arisen, May I be allowed to urge you to continue in importunate supplication?

At every service, in all the social means of grace, at the family altar, each of us, without ceasing and everywhere, let us make urgent intercession.

Prayer will avail when all other forces fail. Pray that an arrest may be speedily put upon the strife that has begun. Pray that the passions of the nations involved may be suppressed.

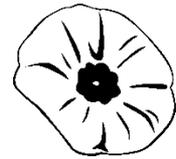
The God of the whole earth will hear believing prayer. May His Kingdom come the more mightily by reason of the present distress!

Affectionally yours

DINSDALE T. YOUNG

*President of the Conference*

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## Notes of the Week: War

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That which men have feared for half a lifetime is upon us. Steadily and with criminal persistence the nations have piled up their munitions of war and invented weapons. The strain had become intolerable. While the wiser have attempted to show the folly of these developments, and have made fruitless appeals in every direction they could think of, the accumulations of wrath have gathered themselves, and now wrath is upon us, to the uttermost. The path chosen by the rulers of Europe could have had no end but this. Soon or later the irritations and the tensions were bound to bound to cumulate, and the enmities find their goal. It is no use speaking of what is to come as a judgement of God. Men are simply eating of the fruit of their ways. What they have, that are they reaping; and nothing less than the entire dissolution of the laws of moral life, and the realities of truth and virtue, could have prevented what we now see. God is good, and evil is evil, and their nature cannot change at our caprice or prayer. We are only seeing, on the scale of a continent, what may be seen in any village street any day. Already we are feeling the awe and terror of the shaking earth. It has been prophesied for twenty years. All through these years men have foolishly, wantonly, hoped it might have come-not to them, but as a legacy to their children. It would not be in their day-so they consoled their shrinking hearts. One does not know exactly what to say to this indifference to the lot of our children. It is needless to say anything.

We who wrought this thing, have it to bear, and our children, we may perhaps hope, will do better as they recall our terrible things.

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## Methodist and the War

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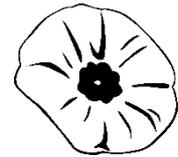
“G” writes:-

Let all Methodists pray, and pray with importunity, and for Christ's sake, that God's hand may “scatter those who delight in war,” and bring this unholy and devilish strife to a speedy end. God will help, when he sees we want his help. He “blew with his wind” and the armada was a wreck before it reached our shores. God has resources the war fiends have not considered. Let us look to Him – that the Lord will fight for us – for peace – with his weapons.

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## North of Scotland Methodism & the Crisis

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Mr George R Fryer writes from the  
Wesleyan Church, Cullen NB:-

Northern Methodism will suffer as keenly as any section of the church, for the Methodist Church is essentially the Fisherman's Church. Already the industry in which the great majority of our people are engaged is disorganised, crippled and our boats are returning from the fishing grounds depleted of their men. The mobilisation of the Naval Reserves has taken a large proportion of our best men from their usual occupation. Our youngest, most energetic, enterprising fisherman are on the Reserve and are called away. This has disorganised the summer fishing.

In another way the industry will suffer inevitably from war, as it depends almost entirely on the German and Russian markets for the consumption of its cure. Practically the whole catch goes to the Baltic ports. The bulk of the fish is cured in salt, and the herring might keep until the war clouds had blown over, but in recent years there has been a great development in the export of ungutted herring preserved in ice which must reach the foreign markets within a fortnight or so after the fish is landed on this side. That department of the trade has already been practically suspended. Markets are closed, prices are fallen, the boats are depleted of their men and are compelled to return to harbour, many of them to be laid up in idleness for want of crews to man them just when the fishing should be in full swing.

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## To our Methodist Chaplains



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Wesley's Chapel Manse,  
49, City Road, London EC

MY DEAR BRETHEREN, -

My warm love is with each you as you  
are at the front, or are presently going  
thither.

Let me with a full heart assure you of my  
sympathy and of the sympathy of our  
whole church.

Let me yet more emphatically assure you  
of our united and unceasing prayers for  
you each, and for your dear ones.

Remember always that the Methodist  
people are making continual  
remembrance of you before God  
wheresoever you may be.

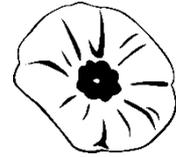
We are glorifying God in you. We honour  
you very highly for the noble work you  
are doing. The Triune God protect you  
and make each of you a wonderful  
blessing to those to whom you minister  
in the dear Saviour's Name.

To each I would say in fulness of hope,  
"Christ shall shine upon thee."

Ever your affectionate Brother,

DINSDALE T. YOUNG

*President of the Conference*



## Our True Aim in the War

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We cannot make it too clear to ourselves what ends we intend to serve through our participation in this war. There is no desire for more territory. Britain has enough to manage. Unless there is some plain human profit to be secured other than our own, or some danger point to be removed, we must hold ourselves resolutely aloof from all territorial acquisition. Nor must there ever be a thought of dealing vindictively with Germany when the time comes for a final settlement. The wings of Germany's military ambition must be effectively clipped. It must not be in her power any longer, please God, to hinder the higher social development of the nations, and to terrorise Europe, for long years to come, from the mad militarism which Germany has for nearly a generation past been compelling among us. But if that can be assured, we must remember, on the other side, how much of good Germany has given us, and how much she is still capable of giving. Not to humiliate her, but to overthrow the military caste which rides astride her, arrogant, pitiless, conscienceless, must be our hope and aim. For the rest, there will be many readjustments of the map of Europe to make. Some smaller nationalities that have been cowed and crushed may profitably be rehabilitated, and given a chance to work out their individual development. Europe will have a better chance of permanent contentment if Alsace and Lorraine are linked to their true affinities.

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## Germans and our Wounded

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We have felt with the whole community a little of the horror of war, as it conducted by the Germans. We have not hesitated to express our mind on the matter. It is all the more necessary therefore, to take note of a brief paragraph in Monday's report from the Press Bureau: - "It is noted that in the rear-guard action of the Guards Brigade on September 1, the Germans were seen giving assistance to our wounded." We do not know if this is an official way of suggesting that reports of alleged atrocities have been a little overdone. There have been protests from more than one quarter. It is notorious that few can, at any time, relate accurately what they have seen; and in time of war, the incompetence is immensely increased. Amid the terror and calamity of disaster, many things become magnified, and no mind is balanced or exact. For the credit of humanity we may be permitted to doubt not a few of the wild stories of cruelty, hate and lust for blood.