

THE FAITH OF THE TRENCHES

By William T. Ellis

One curious impression gained by first-hand observers of the attitude of the soldiers toward religion is that a surprisingly large proportion of the men confounded religion with a few pious, man-made rules which really have nothing to do with religion.

The International Sunday School Lesson for September 29 is "Review: What It Means to Be a Christian." I John 3:1-24.

to show what it means to the soldiers to be Christians. There are no essential differences between them and the rest of us. Only they have cast off, with their civilian garb, many of the former restraints and conventions of their thinking.

MEMBERS OF THE CANADIAN NORTHERN RAILWAY COMMISSION



From left to right:—D. B. Hanna, president; R. Hobson, Hamilton; F. P. Jones, Montreal; E. R. Wood, Toronto; C. M. Hamilton, Weyburn; Major G. A. Bell, Ottawa; R. T. Riley, Winnipeg.

ions come. Here are revealing fragments from one Tommy's soliloquy: "Our Padre were a solemn bloke. We called 'im dismal Jim. It fairly gave ye 'bloomin' creeps."

By way of illustration, the soldier tells the tale of Billy Briggs, who tripped up in a trench one bad night, while carrying tea to the men, a man with uncommon skill in profanity, and who later was killed by a shell.

wrong. As can't do nowt but shout." Then Tommy dreamed one night that he was dead: "I seemed to stand alone, beside a solemn kind o' sea. Its waves they got in my inside, and touched my memory."

no sin; anyone who remains in Him does not sin—anyone who sins has neither seen nor known Him. Let no one deceive you, my dear children; he who practises righteousness is just, as He is just; he who commits sin belongs to the devil, for the devil is a sinner from the very beginning.

us; for God is greater than our heart, and He knows all. If our heart does not condemn us, beloved, then we have confidence in approaching God, and we get from Him whatever we ask, because we obey His commands.

The War Cross. Soldier faith is a cross faith. Protestant chaplains say that the army has shown them afresh the place of the Cross and the sacraments. The Saviour's sacrifice is real to these men who reverently feel that they are following in its train.

What does it mean to be a Christian? It means taking up the Cross and following. It means doing His work, wearing His way, and wearing His name. It means growing like Him and living after the fashion He set, by the Power He gave.

to the troops: This War of the Cross—Cross of a World's Woe, Cross of Righteousness, Cross that Makes Us Free, Red Cross of Compassion—Binds All Mankind to the Cross of Christ.

Advertisement for Ru-Ber-Oid Roofing. Features a large illustration of a man in a suit standing next to a roll of roofing material. Text includes: 'Beware Imitations. None Genuine unless Ru-Ber-Oid Man Appears on Wrapper. RU-BER-OID ROOFING (TRADE MARK REGISTERED)'. Also lists 'The APPROVED Roofing for Factories' and 'STANDARD PAINT CO., OF CANADA, LIMITED'.

As Soldiers See Christianity. We have come to the ending of the third quarter of the year's International Sunday School Lessons, wherein we have been assigned weekly "Studies in the Christian Life," the first strictly topical conference offered by the New Lesson Committee.

Advertisement for 'Mother is Well Now'. Features an illustration of a woman in a long dress standing over three children who are playing. Text: 'Mother is Well Now. Your Noise Does Not Disturb Me Any More—It is a Pleasure to Hear You Romp and Play.'

"It is like a dream now to think of the long, weary months I spent in nervous helplessness. Some days I would be cheered by feeling better, but only to slip back again, and to be more than ever discouraged." "I had always been very active. Had a wide acquaintance and did much entertaining. In addition to helping in whatever was going on at the church, there was Red Cross work to be done, and all the time I had my little family to look after and could not get help."

But Bill, 'e left 'im standin' still. He turned the black night blue. And I guess the Angel Gabriel 'Ad short' and work to do. Well 'ow would poor old Bill go on, And 'e stood all alone, And 'ad to 'ear that tale read out, Afore the great white throne?

The New Law of Life. Right here is an opportune place to quote Moffatt's version of the passage from John's Letter which is assigned as to-day's lesson text: "As you know He is just, be sure that every one who practises righteousness is born of Him."

Advertisement for 'WAR PUZZLES'. Features an illustration of a soldier in a military uniform. Text: 'WAR PUZZLES. BRITISH CAPTURE COMBLES. In the Somme district, two years ago today, September 26, 1918. Find another soldier. YESTERDAY'S ANSWER. Upper right-hand corner down in body.'

Advertisement for 'Hydro Iron'. Features an illustration of a woman ironing clothes on a large ironing board. Text: 'My ironing used to look like a mountain. IRONING day was my worst day in the week. Bending over the hot stove and scorching my fingers on the irons wore on my nerves, and I would end the day a complete wreck, almost impossible for the family to live with. THEN I GOT A HYDRO IRON. IRONING now is almost a pleasure. The stove is out and the kitchen is cool; my iron is always just the right heat; I do not have to run back and forth to the blazing fire. Ironing takes much less time than it did. The Hydro Iron costs \$4.50 and is guaranteed for 5 years. Do you know that is only 1 1/2 cents per ironing for all that comfort? THE CIVIC UTILITIES APPLIANCE DEPT., 268 Princess Street. See Them at the Fair.'