

Canadian Churchman

Toronto, January 9th, 1919.

Editorial

OUR congratulations to BISHOP FARTHING on the completion of his tenth year in the Canadian Episcopate. The loyal expressions of his clergy and people are indicative of the esteem and affection of his diocese, but the Church at large also is thankful for his devotion and talented service. He has shown his deep conviction that the Anglican Church can make a contribution which is essential to the greatness of our national life, and that her contribution must be made in Christian co-operation, not isolation. In Montreal the Bishop has been a fearless opponent of civic abuses. Long before he was raised to the Episcopate his courage was known. Kingston does not forget his refusal as Dean to renew the lease of a cathedral property to a tavern keeper. We believe that the "Layman's Bishop" is the type that strengthens the Church and brings the office into that public influence which is the best tradition of the Anglican Episcopate. Bishop Farthing gives arduous service on the M.S.C.C. Executive and other General Synod concerns, where his outspoken frankness and directness are greatly valued. Some day we hope that our successor may congratulate him on his twenty-fifth year in the Episcopate.

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PROFOUND regret passed over the Canadian Church at the news of the death of BISHOP COURTNEY. For sixteen years he served the Church as Bishop of Nova Scotia. He will long be remembered as the prince of preachers. He was one of the orators of the Bench. Dignity, pervaded by kindness of heart, was the impression one received from intercourse with him. His commanding presence was sometimes compared to that of BISHOP PHILLIPS BROOKS, who was his lifelong friend. He was a great favourite with students. We remember the Bishop one Sunday, afternoon lecturing to the students of Dalhousie University. He sat on the edge of the table, swinging his foot, while with easy dignity he gave in measured prose the treasures from his experience of life. ARCHBISHOP WORRELL said of him: "I have had the closest relations with him, and found him in every way most kindly and reliable in his advice. He always showed the greatest interest in Nova Scotia. He was of the broadest views in his Churchmanship, and he had the finest sympathies with people of all denominations."

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TO state that the "LEAGUE OF NATIONS" and the "Fourteen Points" are the gifts of the United States of America to the Allied cause is a mistake of which no public speaker or intelligent reader should be guilty. As early as February, 1915, a British group, headed by VISCOUNT BRYCE, prepared a draft scheme for a "League of Nations." Even before that, in September, 1914, MR. ASQUITH had given utterance to the hope that the war would issue in "the setting aside of force, competing ambitions, groupings and alliances,

and the substitution for all these things of a real European partnership, based on the recognition of equal right and established and enforced by a common will." VISCOUNT GREY, in May, 1916, said: "Long before this war I had hoped for a league that would be united, quick, instant to prevent, and, if need be, to punish violation of international treaties, of public right, of national independence." It was in the same month that PRESIDENT WILSON spoke of "a universal association of nations" and of "some common force safeguarding right." After the draft scheme of Viscount Bryce there was the formation in the United States of America of the "League to Enforce Peace."

Regarding the "Fourteen Points," it is to be remembered that they were embodied in President Wilson's speech to Congress, January 8th, 1918. On January 5th, 1918, PREMIER LLOYD GEORGE, speaking at the Trade Union Conference at London, covered exactly the same points, except the "freedom of the seas," stating some of them in more forcible terms than the President. Mr. Wilson's recent definitions of his ambiguous phrase, "freedom of the seas," brings it to about the same as British practice.

The more frequent reference to Mr. Wilson's statement is the result of Austria asking the United States of America to be the intermediary in peace negotiations, a request which no doubt was partly suggested by the long period of neutrality which the United States of America maintained.

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THE vigour and determination behind CHINA'S REFORM MOVEMENT has again been evidenced by the wholesale destruction of opium. A Peking telegram says that Great Britain offered to repurchase from China some 1,200 remaining chests of Indian opium at cost price. The President of China declined. He burnt them as a proof of China's determination to suppress the opium traffic. They would have realized, under contract sales, fully \$25,000,000. This whole-hearted measure has had its effect within China as well as without. God be thanked for such entire devotion to the physical and moral welfare of citizenship. What an example to some of us who talk about the revenues from the Liquor Traffic!

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THE forced pace in effort and emotion under which we have all been living has had its effect upon the girl who has been growing up during the war period. Instead of having the time to prepare for her problems, they have been thrust upon her. It is impossible to go back to things as they were before the war. How shall those responsible for the training of girls help them to meet the problems of a future with such unheard-of possibilities? MISS KNOX, Principal of Havergal College, out of her ripe experience of years with girls of school age, is giving suggestions of remarkable value in "THE GIRL OF THE REMAKE" every fortnight. No mother or teacher or girl can afford to miss one article. Miss Knox speaks not so much as a teacher, but

as one who has enjoyed the intimate friendship of hundreds of girls and has helped them to solve their problems.

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EVERY Canadian Churchman desires definite knowledge regarding the Canadian Book of Common Prayer as soon as possible. At the cost of much labour, ARCHDEACON ARMITAGE, the Custodian of the Prayer Book, has promised to prepare a series of articles which will cover the matter of revision, with explanatory notes.

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HELIGOLAND is a German fortress. Should it remain so? Should it be given to Great Britain or Denmark, or should it be internationalized or blown up? You will be the better able to form an opinion after you read DEAN DUCKWORTH'S excellent articles which appear in this issue and the following one.

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ONE of the reasons for God's blessing on the last great offensive in the war is undoubtedly the fact that men at the front and at home were joining their prayers for success. On the eve of the great offensive, before taking leave of his generals after explaining his plans, MARSHAL FOCH said: "I have now done all I can; I leave you to do the rest. Now I beg to be left undisturbed for the next hour." When an urgent message came soon after for him, he could not be found until a Chaplain conducted the messenger to a lonely chapel, where the Marshal was found on his knees in prayer. This evidence of the religious devotion of our great military leaders is what we need to enable us to realize that it is not the mark of a great soldier to scoff at the Christian Faith, as some of those who claim to speak for the man "over there" would have us believe.

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AT the same time, the high example of Marshal Foch, Sir Douglas Haig, Admiral Beatty, General Townshend and others does not blind us to the fact that many have had their faith severely strained by their experiences overseas, not only on the battlefields, but in the cities and camps, and many who have never been overseas have been confounded by their own sorrow or the spectacle of the world's sorrow and sin. The appeal of ARTHUR MEE that the Church should set itself TO SAVE THE FAITH OF THE WORLD voices the challenge of actual conditions. We must show men that the fundamentals remain untouched, God, Christ, Salvation and Immortality. It is the time for the Church to embark on the definite MISSION OF TEACHING, a teaching not of non-essentials, but of the great truths of God by which men can live and die.

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With this issue a serial story by Mrs. J. M. Thurston is commenced, "The Bishop's Shadow." It will be new to many of our readers, and it will bear re-reading. The hero of the story is Bishop Phillips Brooks, of Boston.

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