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# Canadian Epworth Era

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WILLIAM BRIGGS, Publisher.

Vol. X.

TORONTO, DECEMBER, 1908

No. 12

**The Next International.**—At a meeting held in Chicago, November 10th, it was unanimously decided to hold the next International Epworth League Convention in the city of Seattle, on July 7 to 13, 1909. This will doubtless be gratifying news to many Canadians who have long been planning a trip to the Pacific Coast. The distance is considerable, it is true, but the rates will be low, and the scenic attractions of such a trip are very great. An added feature of interest will be the Alaskan-Yukon Exhibition, which in itself will be worth going to see. The people of Seattle are taking hold of the enterprise with characteristic energy and success seems assured.

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**A Good Friend Gone.**—The Epworth League loses a good friend in the death of Dr. Withrow, who, more than any other one man, was responsible for the existence of our organization in Canada. Through his counsel a great mass meeting was called in the Metropolitan Church, Toronto, in October, 1889, when the Epworth League was launched. Through all the years since then, though giving his main attention to the Sunday School periodicals, he has been a staunch advocate of the League, helping in every possible way to advance its interests. In his personal relations he was a most kindly man and generally liked by all who knew him. Most of the papers speak of him as "A Christian gentleman," which is a very correct characterization. He was a pleasant man to meet, and it was a great privilege to converse with him, as he was full of information on almost every subject.

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**No Future for Him.**—What can you do with a youth who does not aspire, who will not look up, who persists in grovelling? There is no future for him unless he turns about face. Darwin says that "in the evolution of the eagle the desire to ascend, to fly heavenward, preceded the appearance of the wings." Human wings, the ability to ascend, are the result of the aspiration, the desire to go higher. There is something in looking up and trying to climb that enlarges and enriches the life, even if we do not attain the particular object of our ambition; just as a person who loves is made nobler, even though his love is not returned.

**The Worship of Work.**—Sir Godfrid Kneller, the artist, said: "When I paint I consider it as one way at least of offering devotions to my Maker, by exercising the talent his goodness has graciously blessed me with." Work may be made worship if it is performed in this spirit. Whatever talent one possesses, whether ordinary or of the rank of genius, it should be exercised gratefully and in the divine service. This is doing all things in the name of Christ and for the glory of God. This will make life's labor a continuous tribute of praise. But our work must be keyed up to this divine note or be discordant.

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**A Trying Test.**—In some of our Sunday School class rooms this motto is hung up: "What kind of a class would our class be, if every member were just like me." This is a pretty serious question to ask of one's self. And there are not many who would be particularly gratified with a candid answer. Paul said to Festus: "I would that thou wert such as I am," but there are few modern church members who would care to use such language. And yet it is the privilege and duty of every follower of Christ to be a model to those about him. Wouldn't it be a glorious thing if every Christian was able to say to his acquaintance: "I would that you were just like me—just such a Christian as I am proving myself day by day to be."

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**Brotherhood of Methodism.**—Rev. J. Williams Butcher, General Secretary of the Wesleyan Sun-ley School Union of Great Britain, is writing an interesting series of letters in the *Methodist Recorder*, concerning his recent visit to Canada. The first describes his experiences in Montreal in which he says: "The first lesson that I have learnt from my experiences in the Dominion is how very real is the sentiment of brotherhood that dominates Methodism. From the moment that the "Victorian" landed her passengers I have been the recipient of constant and thoughtful kindness; indeed, had I been able to indefinitely multiply meals, and to increase the hours available for sight-seeing, I should have had friends at hand eager to extend hospitality or to render service. I have always regarded Yorkshire Methodism as hard to beat in this respect, but it will need to look

after its laurels. All this generous kindness to a perfect stranger is due to the fact that I am a Methodist minister from the 'Homeland.' Yes, Sir Robert Perks is right; there is a force in the Brotherhood of Methodism that, if rightly used, can do great things for the youth that is leaving the Old Country."

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**A Source of Thanksgiving.**—Rev. Dr. Clifford, the eminent Baptist preacher of England, bears the following testimony to the value of Young People's work: "Our Christian Endeavor societies—senior and junior—are a constant source of thanksgiving and joy to me. They are both most effective as educationists in Christian service, and the variety of their forms of useful work surprises and gladdens me. Like the Master, they may say, 'I am amongst you as one that serves.' The sick are visited and cheered, the crippled are welcomed and encouraged, foreign missions are aided, the spirit of self-sacrifice abounds. They also give a large place to Biblical teaching and Church teaching, and in this way are establishing the thought and creating the convictions of the Church of the future. One other thing has gratified me much. I have attended the business meetings and have been struck with the order, ease, and efficiency with which the Endeavorers have directed their affairs. Here, I have said, is the training ground of the officers and church members of the future. Over all and through all, I rejoice to add, there is the spirit of prayer expressing itself with fervor, freedom from convention, and in fulness of trust and hope."

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**The Best Resources.**—Governor Hughes, of New York, said the other day, when some thousands of school children passed before him in parade at Troy, N.Y.: "Fellow-citizens, these are your resources. We desire to conserve our natural resources. We pride ourselves upon the riches of the country, in mine, in forest and in field; but these are our true resources, without which all else fails. Our great objects must be, if we would avail ourselves of the bounties of nature and make good use of the priceless opportunity which is ours, to conserve the manhood and womanhood of the country by taking good care of the boys and girls."