

# From the Editor's Pen

The General Secretary has addressed a personal letter to every Chairman of District in the interests of the Epworth League. He has asked that more than ordinary or formal attention be given to the League side of Church life in the Annual District Meetings, and that some account of the present state of the work, the outlook, with recommendations for the future, be sent in for the consideration of the General Board at its next Annual Meeting. The Annual Conferences will, we hope, give thoughtful consideration to the Epworth League and its affairs.

A letter has been sent from this office to every District League officer whose name and address are on our records, and a report form has been enclosed

If all other Conference Leagues were as practically concerned for the progress of the work entrusted to their official care, an equal degree of progress would be as apparent everywhere as in Manitoba. Without Conference and District Leagues ever alert and active there is little hope of growth in the Epworth League as now constituted.

## The League Forum

We trust all our readers will appreciate this page of our paper every month. "Credo" is a man of wide experience, and has been given free scope by the Editor to conduct the Forum as he pleases for the benefit of the Leagues. It does not follow that either "Credo" or the Editor

## The Secret of Heroism

I recently read about the way Wendell Phillips was led to devote his life to the great cause of emancipation of the slaves. We have all been more or less moved by the marvellous record of that mighty struggle for the abolition of slavery, and have wondered at the spirit that moved and sustained the heroic men who gave their all for their fellows. It is said that Wendell Phillips listened to a sermon by Dr. Lyman Beecher, the father of the renowned Henry Ward, that mightily moved him. The sermon's theme was the redemptive love of God as shown in the work of Jesus Christ for the whole human race and His consequent claims on the lives of His servants. So deeply was Phillips wrought upon that when he went home he literally threw himself upon his face and cried, "Oh, my God, what a God! Take Thou thine own." And his later testimony was that from that day he never saw a thing as opposed to the will of God but he hated it. In these elements lay the secret of his great sustained crusade against slavery. And is it not ever so? The gallant souls who have given the devotion of a life-time for the interests of humanity, have first obtained a glimpse of the infinite love of God and His redeeming work in His Son. Constrained by His propelling Spirit they have laid their all before Him and have withdrawn nothing from His service. Such a vision of God always gives one a clearer view of the world's need and the hatefulness of evil, and combined, these foster most effectively the spirit of true Christian heroism in the soul of the seer. The heroic hosts of devoted men and women, who through the ages have been praying and laboring for the deliverance of their fellows from the thraldom of sin, have gone forth from the chamber of spiritual vision loving God and hating sin, to bravely fight for truth and righteousness throughout the earth. The succession of brave and intrepid spirits who are to continue their work, until the last dread evil has been eradicated and the final victory won, must be recruited and sustained after the same manner. Seeing the wonderful love of God, realizing His claims on us, and responding to the call of human need; surely, by the constraints of these we shall show forth the true heroic spirit of loyal and obedient soldiers of the Cross.

## Only Half Trying

"You could do it if you only half-tried." said a well grown and muscular youth to a younger lad who was making a rather sorry attempt at a long jump in a back yard recently. Whether or not the jumper succeeded in his subsequent attempt or not, we do not know; but the remark, overheard casually, gave us a suggestion as to the real reason for the majority of the failures in other lines than athletics, among our young folk.

As we ruminated over the judgment of the bigger boy on his smaller companion, we felt like applying his verdict to not a few of our young acquaintances. "You could do it if you only half tried," we felt to say to the Leaguer who is very much given to excuses for not taking the topic in League. A similar remark might be made to those who never seem to pluck up the courage or make sufficient effort to lead in public prayer. But why should we try to inventory all to whom the remark might aptly apply? Their name is legion. They number in their ranks the failures at school, in trade, in commerce, in many of life's employments and pursuits; but particularly does the reflection conveyed in the



WESLEY BUILDINGS—AS THEY ARE NOW. RICHMOND STREET FRONT.

which all are asked to fill up and return to the General Secretary. The prompt attention of all concerned, to this matter will greatly assist him in formulating some intelligent statement of the year's work for the General Board.

The attention of all Conference League Executives is called to the columns in this number containing the "Digest" recently sent out by the Manitoba Executive. The splendid convention held in Zion Church, Winnipeg, was reported at the time, and we are pleased now to give space to the excellent "follow up" circular issued by the Committee. It will assure all who read it that our Manitoba leaders are alive and active, that their work is prospering, and that they are not content with simply holding a Convention.

shall agree with all that may from time to time appear on the page, or that our readers shall assent to all that may be stated there. But we desire every person interested in our young people's work to carefully peruse what appears in the Forum each month, and we invite correspondence for its columns. Address any communication you may wish to send to "Credo," care the General Secretary, Rooms 21-23, Wesley Buildings, Toronto, and we will promptly forward it to its proper destination. There is abundant material for thoughtful discussion for "the good of the order" in our present issue. Feel free to deal with any of the problems presented or suggested. "Credo" will be glad to hear from you. We invite you to take part.