

Are We Prepared?

A Message for the New Year.

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A HUNDRED years ago, a great British poet, in times of war and danger and uncertainty much like the present, wrote these lines:

Bliss was it in that dawn to be alive,
But to be young was very heaven.

Through the storm and the stress he saw the new day, the sun of righteousness arising with healing in his wings.

We need like faith now, and if we believe, and act upon our belief, that the new day is rising, it will surely come to pass.

I am writing this for young men and young women. This new day will be yours, to make or to mar, according as you think nobly or ignobly, and act wisely or foolishly.

The new day will need strong men and women, strong to do the things that are worth doing, strong to oppose vain and foolish counsels, strong for fair play and equality and social justice.

The things that will be worth doing are to provide food for those that otherwise will go hungry, and clothing and shelter for those that otherwise will go naked and homeless; to establish right ideas of duty and social relationship and politics; to give just dealing to all, and especially to the

soldiers returning from the battle-field where they have made secure our treasured Canadian liberty.

There will be a time of upheaval, not only in Europe, where crowns and thrones are perishing, but also here in Canada. There will be much confused thinking, and many unpracticable counsels. There will be neglect of the primary duties and scrambling for place and power and privilege. There will be also, it is devoutly to be wished, much clear and sane thinking, much unselfishness and dutifulness and faithful honest work and heroism. For shame be to us if we forget soon the heroisms the war has taught us.



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Are we prepared for the great tasks that lie before us? And if not, are we getting prepared? Do we see clearly what will be wanted of us? The Colleges have their opportunity now as never before, to preach and to practice the doctrines of individual capability and efficiency, of service-ability, of giving rather than receiving, of clear thinking, of high ideals, and of devotion to the common weal. For the Son of Man came not to be ministered unto but to minister and to live His life a ransom for many.