

THE CANADIAN EPWORTH ERA

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A Beautiful Badge.—The badge used at the Seventh International Convention of the Epworth League recently held in Denver, was unique and beautiful, illustrating the good use to which the metals of Colorado can be put. The excellent picture on this page will give our readers a very good idea of the badge. In the blank space in the centre, the word "Canada" was inserted for the Canadian delegates.

Another Convention Number.—The editor of this paper has received several expressions of appreciation concerning the Sunday-School Convention number of last month. Our report of this Convention far surpassed that of any other religious paper in completeness. We aim to do a similar service for our readers in this issue by giving them a view of the great Epworth League gathering in Denver last month. Those who were not able to attend, will doubtless appreciate the good things which these pages contain.

A Good Maxim.—"Always be occupied" was one of the maxims of Wm. H. Prescott, the historian. It is a good rule. Don't shrug your shoulder and repeat the lines about, "All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy," for the rule does not say, "Be always at work." It means that we are to be doing something, whether work or play, every hour of our waking life. The great foe of an active, useful life is the habit of lazily "dawdling"—letting time slip by in a vacant, empty way. Always be occupied.

Our Country's Destiny.—"Canada is a broad country, a well-watered country, a country with grand mountains, and great rivers—lakes, like seas, rich treasures of gold, of silver, of coal, of iron, of oil, wheat and fruit." But none of these possessions can make Canada a great country any more than a fine coat can make a fine man. Our country's destiny just now more than any of us perhaps realize is in the hands of the young men and young women, of the boys and girls of these very years. All sorts of enemies are working hard against her life and institutions—the infidel, the greedy money getter, who sees nothing beyond the horizon of his own interest, the saloon-keeper, the impure, the ignorant—each has a menace for our country. Greece was once the honored of nations. We dig in the earth to find the story of Troy, Babylon and Tyre, each of which had its day of glory. Will Canada stand a glorious country throughout the ages? Every citizen, young or old, of Canadian

or of foreign parentage, can do for his country what no one else can do. He can make of himself a citizen to be depended upon. Faithfulness to duty and perfect honesty in all social and business relations are two most valuable virtues of which every Canadian can become possessed.

A Coming Nation.—In a recent editorial, *Collier's* has this to say: The Dominion to-day is one of the four greatest exporters of wheat, and her water-



THE OFFICIAL BADGE

power, as yet but little utilized, will some day make her one of the greatest manufacturing countries of the globe. Already the United States is looking to her forests for timber, and her railroads are destined—from the most conservative estimates—to double their mileage in the next ten years. Even to-day, Canada exceeds the railway mileage of Italy and Spain combined. Her trackage is equal to about three-fifths of all the systems of Russia or Germany, and is more than three-fourths of all Austria-Hungary's. It almost equals the total mileage of the British Isles; and Argentina excepted,

Canada has more railroads than all the countries of South America combined. The whole continent of Africa has less than half as many laid rails; and the systems of any minor power of Europe could be added to that of Australasia before the Canadian roads would be matched. In short, Canada has more railroads than Belgium, Netherlands, Switzerland, Portugal, Norway, Sweden, Servia and Greece, all combined, and yet these nations have a total of more than six times Canada's population. There is both a political and a commercial significance in all this, which the world is just beginning to see. There is no other dependency in the world of Canada's power and proportions. Her climate matches that of Russia, while her domain is vastly greater. The railroad development is the barometer test of a country's civilization, natural wealth and enterprise. It is not the outgrowth of mere population. Canada has outgrown her colonial days, and is, in fact, a nation taking a foreplace in the industry and commerce of the world.

Lack of Training.—A London editor remarks that Russia is reduced to the condition of Spain after the war with the United States. Russia laid all the shipyards in the world under tribute to procure magnificent battleships and cruisers. Time, thought, and millions of money were lavished on the navy; but she neglected to train the officers and men in handling the scientific instruments entrusted to their use. "The weapon is not only useless but dangerous without the trained mind, hand, and eye behind it." "No question is raised of Russian bravery; no suggestion that they fled in panic. The mere fact of their attempting the perilous passage of straits on the enemy's shore, after a long and trying voyage, is alone indicative of stupendous courage, making them worthy foes of their extraordinary opponents."

Too Light.—Bishop Fowler told the girls of Lasell Seminary, at the recent Commencement: "There is some power in the merely fashionable woman, but she cannot be the real woman of the future, for she is too light." The man or woman who lives simply for the fashions leads really a most contemptible life. There are fashions—the usages of a polite society—which need to be regarded, but the individual who thinks most of forms and ceremonies, and not at all of the spirit and aim of all existence, is indeed, as Bishop Fowler intimates, "too light" for the purposes of modern civilization.