

of some. But this is not true of all. Large numbers of Christians, now that the war is over, and their loved ones safe at home again, are showing an indifference to the Church, and an absorption in the world, which are surprising and disquieting.

These conditions, with others which I need not now indicate, have greatly moved the farther-seeing Christians of this continent. They have come to believe that in days so extraordinary unusual demands are made upon us. This they have felt the more deeply because, notwithstanding the apparent disregard of the Christian religion on the part of the multitudes, there was discovered a great heart-hunger and a widespread conviction that the world should forthwith be made better. There was no agreement on the part of worldly people as to how the desired transformation might be brought about, but that it ought to be brought about was clear.

We cannot wonder that all the people of God who had any true measure of apostolic insight and zeal, saw that this was more than a day of extraordinary conditions. Plainly, it was a day also of extraordinary opportunity.

Of this conviction was born the Forward Movement, a movement which has swept into its mighty tide the evangelical denominations of Canada and the United States.

We are specially interested in this movement as it affects our Baptist people. There are six Baptist Conventions on this continent, three in the United States and three in Canada. In each of these Conventions the Forward Movement plan has put the chief emphasis on spiritual religion. But it is impossible to be honestly spiritual without bringing worthy offerings to God. This fact required that there should be financial objectives in these several Conventions, as well as spiritual aims. Of these financial objectives we can speak in terms of figures; the spiritual values sought are more subtle; they cannot be described by any unit of measure; we can only say that they are infinitely greater than the millions of money which are being collected. We may get, however, a clearer view of the immensity of the results sought by the Forward Movement if we remember that the money raised is the smaller value in contemplation, and then try to get an idea of the measure of that smaller value. What are the amounts sought?

The financial objective of the Southern Baptist Convention is \$75,000,000; that of the Northern Convention, \$100,000,000; that of the Negro Baptist Convention, \$32,000,000.

Compared with these figures our Canadian Baptist figures look very small, a total of \$850,000 for the three Conventions, \$150,000 for the West, \$300,000 for Ontario and Quebec, and 300,000 for the Maritime Provinces. The Southern Baptists, for example, set out to raise an average of five dollars a member each year for five years. The Baptists of our Ontario and Quebec Convention are asked to give two and a half dollars each year for two years. I am sure no one can feel that too much is asked of our Ontario and Quebec Baptists. Indeed, many feel that the Convention asked altogether too little.

I need not go into details in referring to our plan of campaign. I will assume that the Ontario and Quebec readers of the "Link" are readers of "The Canadian Baptist." They also have seen certain folders giving information. The Sunday Schools and Young People's Societies are putting on campaigns to increase their enrolment and to win souls to Christ. The latter are undertaking to stimulate church attendance. The women, already engaged in a Forward Movement of per-