

THE Canadian Epworth Era

Toronto
January - 1910

Vol. XII

No. 1

GO FORWARD!

IT is to us that we are called each New Year. . . . We are summoned to leave our routine Christian life and the commonplace godliness that has so long satisfied us. We are called to be saints—not when we are dead and our bodies have been buried out of sight, but now, while we are busy in the midst of human affairs, while we live and meet temptations every day, while men see us, and are touched and impressed by what we do. Shall we not give up and leave behind our conventional godliness, our fashionable holiness, our worldly conformity, and be holy men, holy women, turning nearer to God. . . .

We rejoice in all that God has done for us in the past. We are grateful for the blessings we have received. But we are only on the edge of the spiritual possibilities that are within our reach. We are in danger of sitting down in a sort of quiet content, as if there were no farther heights to be reached. . . .

We must be better men, better women, better Christians. We must be holier. One man wrote on a New Year's eve that he wanted to be a cleaner man in the New Year than ever before. "How I long to be clean all through! What a blessed life that must be!" We need all and always to seek the same cleanness. It must begin within. "Blessed are the pure in heart." . . .

Our master is not exacting,—does not require of us what we cannot do. No one is required to do the work of the whole world, but every one is required to be faithful in his own place. Lincoln said: "I am not bound to win, but I am bound to be true. I am not bound to succeed, but I am bound to live up to the light I have." . . .

Always keep brave, hopeful, sweet, forgetting the past and stretching forward, knowing that no life that is true to its best can ever fail."—*J. R. Miller, D.D.*