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EDITORIAL

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Our New Associate Secretary

By the time you read this Mr. Farewell, whose portrait appears on our front cover page, will have begun work in his new office. After a brief visit to the great international convention at Seattle, Mr. Farewell hurries back to Ontario and will take several important subjects at the St. Thomas Summer School. A strenuous campaign of field work will follow. We believe that our leaguers and Sunday School workers everywhere will greet Mr. Farewell cordially, and sympathetically co-operate with him from place to place in united endeavor to make his work a great blessing. Let all our people unite in earnest prayer that God's blessing may rest upon the labors of all our general secretaries as they go from ocean to ocean, throughout the conferences, to promote the efficiency of our great Connexional organizations.

Service for Others

Every Epworth Leaguer, pledged to service, will do well to remember the sane and wholesome truth that the immortal Scott caused Jeannie Deans to utter when she addressed Queen Caroline in these words: "When the hour of trouble comes to the mind or body—and seldom may it visit your leddyship!—and when the hour of death comes, that comes too high and low—long and late may it be yours, O, my leddy!—then it isna what we hae done for ourselves, but what we hae done for others, that we think on maist pleasantly." By the words of cheer we speak, the acts of kindness we do, the prayers of faith we offer, for others, we may store up for ourselves pleasant memories and heavenly rewards that shall be of priceless and eternal worth. The Epworth League that does not train its members in such unselfish service will surely miss the supreme purpose of its organization.

"Services" or "Service"?

There is a difference. Which do you prefer? For which does your Epworth League exist—holding services or doing service? The former are not in themselves the supreme end of your organization; the latter is. Services may be necessary for service, but they are merely incidental, and a means to an end. If your services do not contribute to more efficient service there is something wrong. It may be that you have an erroneous conception of the purpose of the league, or that your services are not of the proper character. Not the number of meetings held, but their influence on the lives of your members, and through them on your congregation and community, is the main thing. Every meeting should result in more efficient service on the part of both the leaguers and the league, that all may be fitted to emulate our Divine Exemplar, who said "I am among you as one that serveth." Services should always prepare for service. Do yours work that way?

The Spirit of the Worker

"If it doesn't go, I will." A statement like this shows a determined will to do everything possible to ensure success in the department of work undertaken. Such a resolution we heard expressed by a lady who had been put in charge of an important enterprise in her Sunday School. It had been taken in hand in a half-hearted kind of a way by others who had preceded her, and only a very meagre measure of success had been realized. When she was persuaded to undertake the work, she threw such wholehearted enthusiasm into it that it was not long before success was assured, and an

efficient home department resulted. The circumstances were against her, prophets of failure were about her; but she made it "go," and, as a consequence, she herself remained. In every part of our work we need those who know no such word as "fail"; but, with an invincible determination to succeed, will do their utmost and win a measure of success, despite all local difficulties. To such people no work is impossible, and that it is counted hard is only an added stimulus to greater effort to attain the desired end. What kind and what amount of spirit are you putting into your work?

The 1910 E. L. Topics

We are giving considerable study to the preparation of next year's topics. It is perhaps an impossible task to prepare a list that will please everybody, but we are anxious to select such only as shall be generally acceptable. Therefore, we would like to receive suggestions from any of our leaguers who think there is room for improvement in the character of the year's assignment. We shall give all these hints and propositions due consideration, and trust to derive profit from them. Whether on this or any other matter connected with the work of the general office, the General Secretary and Editor invites your correspondence. Now is your opportunity. Take it and we shall be thankful to hear from you.

Love That Compels

One of the most striking characteristics of the early Methodists was what Bishop Lightfoot called "that lost secret of Christianity, the compulsion of human souls." The hidden source of such power is love—love to Christ as the Saviour of lost souls, and love to souls that should not be finally lost. The manifestation of such a spiritual passion for the salvation of souls will always ensure ingathering, whether on the part of an individual worker or of an organized society. Without this Christlike spirit of love, work is but indifferently done, and results are not permanent. With it the worker may die, but the work of God remains, and the permanence of reforms effected will be shown. Mr. Augustine Birrell remarked to a Cornish miner once: "You seem a very temperate people here. How did it happen?" With reverent spirit the honest workman lifted his cap and replied: "There came a man among us once, and his name was John Wesley." That told the story, and without Wesley's devotion and earnestness his nominal followers of the twentieth century will fall to show their skill in "the compulsion of human souls."

Getting or Giving

The controlling motive in Christian work should never be getting, but giving. If we are moved to do things because of what we are going to receive in return our desire is selfish and our spirit that of a hireling. As a consequence, the work will become drudgery and be but poorly done. But if we are moved by a desire to give rather than to get, it will change the whole spirit and method of our endeavor. God never gives to us simply for self-enrichment; but always that, having, we may give to bless someone else. And as we give, our capacity for getting increases, and we are able to give out again in larger measure. This is the very heart of the law of growth. As in the natural, so in the spiritual realm. There is that which scattereth and yet increaseth, and there is that which withholdeth and tendeth to poverty. How does this affect our Epworth Leagues? Young people who unite with the league simply to get some indefinite yet