

to me we are about on time ; that is because of the absence of the new President's address ; so we will have our programme and our time right before us. There is one duty laid upon me, and that is, however unpleasant it may appear, I am to keep each speaker to his time. (Hear, hear.) And I want to make that general announcement now, so that if I have occasion to touch this little bell when some gentleman is speaking, he may not feel that I am personal in the matter. I shall most rigorously apply the bell to each one when his time is up ; only in this manner can we cover the programme. We are going to have an address of welcome, and a reply. To the mover of that address we allow ten minutes, and five minutes for the reply. Then we have three of the delegates to the World's Convention of S. S. workers. We are just going to allow each fifteen minutes, and no more, and I shall ring the bell when the fifteen minutes are up. I have now much pleasure in calling upon the Rev. Dr. Potts to offer an address of welcome to the members of this Convention. (Applause.)

Rev. Dr. POTTS—*Mr. President and Christian Friends*,—I count it a very high honor indeed to be the mouth-piece of Toronto to-night, to address words of welcome to the members of this Provincial S. S. Convention. As I sat in the meeting this afternoon in Carlton Street Church, and listened to and joined in the prayers of those who led our devotions there, I felt that we had already a pledge and guarantee of a very successful Convention ; and, as I breathe the devotional atmosphere of this meeting to-night, I feel that it is just a little better than the afternoon ; and I have good reason to believe that this will go on more and more until the benediction of this Convention is pronounced. On behalf of the city of Toronto, I welcome you to our city, not because of any peculiar denominational complexion that you may possibly have ; all S. S. workers should be Church members, should be Christians in heart and professing Christians, and connected with one or other branch of the Church of Christ. But I do not inquire to-night to what section of the Christian Church you belong ; the fact that you are Christians, the fact that you are S. S. workers is enough for me, and enough for the churches of Toronto to welcome you to our hearts and to welcome you to our homes and to our Churches. We welcome you especially to-night because of the institution that you represent, and because of the work done for Christ in connection with that institution. Perhaps the magnitude of the Sunday School institution is hardly realized, even by those who are earnest workers in connection therewith. You represent officially the Ontario Provincial S. S. Association ; but you belong to a wonderful S. S. army. I heard some statistics referred to to-night by my friend, the President of this Convention ; but I want to say that you represent not only the S. S. work of Canada and of the United States and of the International S. S. Convention, but you represent the S. S. work of the nations of the world ; and I hold in my hand to-night the