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## CANADA'S CLARION CALL

MAJOR, THE REV. GEORGE H. WILLIAMS

Chaplain to the Canadian Forces, Niagara-on-the-Lake

PEOPLE popularly speak of Canada as a young people's country. Observation confirms the designation. This is not a fortuitous condition but, rather, a providential dispensation. Our vast

Dominion of unrivalled potentialities peculiarly challenges youth in its virility; the unrivalled vistas of territory and incomputable treasure-trove exert an irresistible spell upon youth whenever its glory is perceived. Femininity and senility will instinctively shrink from these shores except under parasitic instinct; and such will find only temporary lodgment here, inevitably drifting to less strenuous climes. Already there is passing through our portals a stream of adventurous youth whose magnitude thrills those who watch it. This ceaseless stream, flocking to our land, is but the advance guard of what will eventually become a serried army of ambitious manhood from the exploited and despoiled empires of the old world. It is not the imaginative only who are infatuated by this vision of "Our Lady of the Snows," but the ambitious also, who, chafing at the intolerable conditions of the Old World social order, seek development in the prodigality of opportunity afforded by our vast Dominion. Here is ample sphere for originality of genius, individuality of character, popular recognition of the dignity of toil, with due compensation in emolument and alluring vision of destiny.

The same mysterious providence that opened to the

ambitious youth of the Old World this "Golden Gate" to the potential West, now opens to the heroic youth in the West a no less "Golden Gate" to the trailing East. Canadian youths, favored by the vantage ground of a

strenuous Dominion, demanding heroic qualities for the conquest of the natural and moral difficulties inevitable in a new country, have become self-respecting, self-resourceful, and self-sacrificing.

Our peculiar immunity, however, from some of the Old World curses has not afforded us absolute security from insidious peril, which is particularly conspicuous in our cupidity to materialistic ideals. We have discredited the fictitious claim of birth, but have substituted the more vicious claim of wealth. We have rightly regarded all as "well born," but have falsely reserved for the rich man our "well done." The aristocrat has been discounted, but the plutocrat has been at a premium in our social market. The lure of gold has fascinated us. Our personal, social, and political integrity have thereby been seriously vitiated, and our redemption is imperative. Providentially, but tragically, it is now made possible by a chivalrous crusade on the part of all the youth of Canada through the new Golden Gate to the East.

We have been horrified as we have peered through this

gate. The sudden and frightful repudiation by Germany of all spiritual, moral and humane obligations, with its sequel, the orgy of lust, the slaughter of the innocents of Belgium, the ghoulish desecration of hamlet and shrine,



MAJOR GEORGE H. WILLIAMS

As we saw him walking through Queen's Park on a recent official visit to Toronto.