

The British Columbia Monthly

Publishing Office, 204 Winch Building, Vancouver, B.C.

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Devoted to

**COMMUNITY SERVICE, FEARLESS, FAIR AND FREE
THE MAGAZINE OF THE CANADIAN WEST**

Promoting

Social Betterment, Educational Progress and Religious Life;
but Independent of Party, Sect or Faction.

"BE BRITISH," COLUMBIANS !

Vol. XV.

FEBRUARY, 1920

No. 5

THE DOMINANT NOTE IN THE FORWARD MOVEMENT

Messages from Representative Western Canadian Churchmen

NOTE—In keeping with the interests and ideals which this Magazine for nearly nine years has sought to foster and support, and regardless of any business consideration which may be omitted or extended to it by Forward Movement Officials in the East or West, we ventured to invite the representative Churchmen—clergymen and laymen on the Inter-Church Executive Committee of B. C.—to give us short messages concerning what they thought should be the dominant note of the Forward Movement. The following replies were received before we went to press:

I. An Appeal to Loyalty, Humanity, Business Sense and Self-Interest.

1. The Forward Movement is an appeal to our loyalty. We have received as our greatest inheritance from the Motherland the Christian Faith. When put to the acid test, Canada has proved "no degenerate Son of the Mother;" she has kept the faith. Now we are called upon to do as the Motherland did in handing on to those that come after us this great inheritance, in giving to those in our own land, by our exertions, the torch of truth that the Mother passed on to us.
2. The Forward Movement is next an appeal to our common humanity. We are asked to take proper care of our aged and infirm Clergy, and the Widow and Orphan.
3. The Forward Movement makes a claim upon our business sense. We should show much ability and activity in organizing the affairs of the Church so that she may be an efficient agent, as we do in organizing the affairs of any Co-operative Society.
4. The Forward Movement makes an appeal to our true self interest and high sanctified self-interest, that Charity, which begins at home, is approved, both by God and man. "He, who would save his life, must lose it." "Who is on the Lord's side?" Sanctify yourselves today unto the Lord."

—BISHOP OF NEW WESTMINSTER.....

II. The Only Power to Cure the World's Ills.

This is without doubt the greatest day of opportunity in the history of the Christian Church. Our time has arrived to convince the world and to convict ourselves that we mean business. We shall now adopt a programme somewhat commensurate with the origin, the history and the power of Christian faith.

The world war has taught us how to do big things in a big way. Too long have we deceived ourselves in thinking that we were carrying on a Christian warfare, while we have utterly failed in service to manifest the daring spirit and

self-sacrifice of the modern soldier. Now the opportunity has come to the rank and file of organized Christianity in Canada, to dedicate life and substance to the service of God in something like the spirit in which our brave lads dedicated themselves to the service of King and Country, thousands of them literally dying upon the field of battle, and tens of thousands of them in spirit, at least, paying the "supreme sacrifice" in their desperate struggle with the enemies of our civilization.

Only in this spirit shall we be able in this great day of the world's need to assume that leadership which shall bring order out of chaos and give rest to her troubled spirit, for, while the mutterings and groanings of the world are more or less incoherent, they are, nevertheless, real. She is indeed sick at heart and the only power calculated to cure her ills, not by a reformation only, but by the regeneration of her heart, is the power of organized Christianity. Let every last soldier of Jesus Christ in this great day prove his loyalty by the dedication of his all.

S. S. OSTERHOUT,

Organizer for the Methodist Church in British Columbia.

III.—Opportunity and Responsibility.

The two dominant words in this Forward Movement at this juncture are OPPORTUNITY and RESPONSIBILITY.

Never before was there such an opportunity given the Church to equip herself for the tremendous work committed to her to do.

For months God's people have been praying that a great spiritual awakening might come to the Church and that men and women might give themselves to His service. Do we believe that it is coming? Have we faith enough in God to give us these workers? If we have, we shall show it by providing an equipment that will enable them to do the work to which they give themselves. It is said of a Man of God on one occasion, when on a sailing vessel, he was asked to intercede with God that wind might be forthcoming to enable the becalmed vessel to proceed on her journey. "Yes," he said, "I will, but you must put up the sails first." After some reluctance they did, and the wind came. The responsibility of providing equipment rests on us.

Gladly did we contribute during the war, of our means, to put into the hands of Our Boys the best possible equipment to enable them to drive back the Huns; without stint we gave our boys, and 60,000 of them died to keep us free, and because of their sacrifice our soil has not been violated and our homes have not been ravaged. Are we willing to die to our little self, to our ignoble purposes, to set men free from superstition, from ignorance, from sin and from oppression?

This is our opportunity; may we seize it! This is our responsibility; may it be to us a privilege!

A. E. MITCHELL,

Organizer for the Presbyterian Church in B. C.

IV.—Co-operation; Applied Christianity; Call to Christian Work.

1. Denominations have been too far apart for many years in Canada. As our soldiers jumped the Denominational fences, so the Forward Movement is showing Canadian people that the several churches are willing to Co-operate in advancing not only Christianity, but Canadian peace and prosperity
2. To solve Home, Social, Industrial and national Problems, the principles of the Gospel are imperatively needed, and men in authority everywhere know it, and these men are expectantly looking to Christianity to lead on to a better day and better conditions; and to create a better spirit than we have now. Hence the need of the Forward Movement.