

plishing the ends for which his men or machinery were organized. The Executive committee of the League will do best service to the society only when the President is capable of devising great things and inspiring correspondingly worthy enterprises. We hold the President to be not only nominally but actually the Head of the League. Given a man of narrow or dwarfed vision, little will be attempted; with one of dilatory habits added, less will be achieved. A constant menace to League success is short-sightedness in the head officer. Failure to lead on his part means failure to accomplish on the part of the rank and file of the membership. So, friend President, because the General Secretary is trying to look ahead he asks you to do so too. How about your next convention: have you well-defined plans for it, are you booming it among your Leagues, or is it just a dawdling thought in the thick haze of your lagging memory? How about your Fall campaign: are you studying anything new whereby you may reach a fresh lot of youngsters in your neighborhood, or are you just "holding the fort" almost despairingly? How about your Young People's Rally Day: does the Autumn seem too far away to think about that? Yes, there are a lot of just such questions that we might ask, but it will be far better if you initiate them in our own mind, and after your own fashion solve them. This much is sure; if we do not all look ahead and plan for the future intelligently, systematically, thoroughly, we shall never be the useful instruments for advancing the interests of our Church and the Kingdom that our positions warrant the Great Commander in expecting us to become. Think! Plan! Achieve! these are potent words for our consideration. They go together in every well-directed campaign. Without them there is little attempted and nothing worth while done.

"Youth and Service"

We have already announced that this is to be the title of our paper, beginning with the September number. The reasons leading up to the change have been explained in various ways and at different times, so that the majority of our readers at least, as well as the ministers and official leaders generally, have more or less knowledge of the matter. It seems well, however, to state the case more fully than it has been yet done in our columns. Briefly put, it is this: *The Canadian Epworth Era* is now in its seventeenth year of publication. That it has filled a large and important place in the organized Young People's work of Canadian Methodism during these years is acknowledged by all. Its ministry to the Epworth League has been valuable, no other periodical in our Church being at all able to take its place in this particular line of service. Thousands of young people have been helped in many ways by its agency and influence, and the Epworth League has been very greatly indebted to it for guidance and counsel. But the Epworth League constituency has never supported the paper by subscriptions sufficient in number to make the paper self-supporting. The Central section of the Book Committee has faced a deficit every year since the inception of the paper. No loud or strong complaint has been made against this condition, though it has been felt repeatedly that a larger subscription list ought to be forthcoming from the thousands of leaguers who look upon the paper as especially their organ. But it seems an impossibility to secure this increased list, and year after year the circulation has remained at about the same mark, with little if any prospect of improving it to any marked degree. The very fact that it is an Epworth League paper, wholly and solely, necessarily limits the circulation, and outside of the individual league subscribers there has been a very limited field of usefulness for the paper.

But an enlarged sphere opens up for it, and to serve the larger constituency the old name would hardly be either appropriate or acceptable. The widening of the field of service for the paper was first suggested by the editor. It

came about in this way: The Department of Sunday Schools and Young People's Societies has much in common of course with all the other related Departments of the Methodist Church, but it has been particularly associated with the Department of Social Service and Evangelism. The reason for this is evident. Since the addition of the Department of Citizenship in the Epworth League, four years ago, it has been necessary that the General Secretaries of the two Departments named should confer for mutual benefit and for the permanent good of the life and work of the League as represented in the fourth department of its Constitution. The editor has invariably found Dr. Moore ready to assist in every possible way, and our readers have noticed with pleasure that the expositions of the fourth department topics are provided by members of his staff or by others whom he has enlisted for this service. It became a conviction with the editor that the two departments represented by Dr. Moore and himself could co-operate in the issuance of the paper to the advantage of all concerned, and with the prospect that in serving a wider constituency than merely the Epworth League, a much enlarged subscription list and possibly a self-supporting future for the paper would follow. Hence the suggestion of co-operation was made, first in a friendly way as a matter worthy of thought, then formally to the General Board of Sunday Schools and Young People's Societies and to the General Board of Social Service and Evangelism. Both these Boards readily assented to the proposition. It was then submitted to the Executive of the Book Committee. The Committee agreed, and appointed a sub-committee on name and scope of the paper. In due time this sub-committee reported to the full meeting of the Book Committee. Its report was after consideration adopted, and the proposed change left to the editor in co-operation with Dr. Moore, to effect. All details have not as yet been definitely fixed; but we are empowered to announce that commencing with September this paper will be known as "*Youth and Service*." No change will be made in the size, form, or price of the paper, and of course, all present subscribers will continue regularly on our lists until the expiration of their subscriptions, when we expect and hope they will have so high an idea of the new paper that they will not even think of dropping their names from our mailing sheets.

No interest of our *Youth* will be overlooked, and no avenue of *Service* whereby they may either singly or together best advance the Kingdom, will be neglected. The new name was chosen because it definitely represents just what the two departments which the paper is to serve, positively stand for in the Church. Nothing that can contribute to the highest possible personal culture of our young folk or to their combined usefulness for the kingdom of God, will be omitted from our columns as far as we can find space for its treatment; but as heretofore, we shall endeavor to cultivate just such principles as are vital in the Epworth League pledge and direct such lines of organized activities as are set forth in the League, the Brotherhood, the Club, the Class, the School,—in short, in all the various forms of usefulness provided by the Methodist Church for the exercise and development of the powers of its people in bringing each community throughout the whole land and ultimately the whole world to the realization of the Kingdom of Jesus Christ. We ask for the new paper the intelligent thought, sympathetic assistance, and hearty goodwill of all the old readers of the *Canadian Epworth Era*, and hope to enroll a large number of new readers among our friends of the future.

District Convention Dates

Will the Presidents of District Leagues kindly notify the General Secretary as soon as possible of the probable dates of their next District League Conventions. It is very desirable that these important items be definitely arranged and announced early in the season that none may lack in interest by lack of publicity. Send in the information.