

# THE CANADIAN EPWORTH ERA

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## Sowing and Reaping

We shape ourselves the joy or fear  
Of which the coming life is made,  
And fill our Future's atmosphere  
With sunshine or with shade.

The tissue of the Life to be  
We weave with colors all our own,  
And in the field of Destiny  
We reap as we have sown.

Still shall the soul around it call  
The shadows which it gathered here,  
And, painted on the eternal wall,  
The Past shall reappear.

Think ye the notes of holy song  
On Milton's tuneful ear have died?  
Think ye that Raphael's angel throng  
Has vanished from his side?

O no!—We touch our life again:  
Or warmly lived, or coldly dim,  
The pictures of the Past remain,  
Man's work shall follow him!

—J. G. Whittier.

**Immeasurable Possibilities.**—The President of the Winnipeg Sunday-school Association, in his annual report said: "The boundaries of the modern Sunday-school are the cradle roll and the home department, and within these periods there are immeasurable possibilities looking towards soul-saving, character-building and Christian service, which is the standard of attainments, the final test, and the supreme purpose of the Sunday-school."

**Nelson Memorial.**—October 21st of this year will be the one hundredth anniversary of the death of Lord Nelson. It is the intention to raise a "Nelson Centenary Memorial Fund" of one million shillings; no subscription to be more than one shilling. The money is to be used by the "British and Foreign Sailors' Society" to provide for seamen—disabled, distressed and destitute, and also to endow a Nelson Scholarship for seamen. From a sailor point of view, perhaps, there is no date in the English calendar more memorable than the day when the hero died. Tennyson sang of Nelson:

"Thine Island that loves thee well, thou famous man,  
The greatest sailor since our world began."

Even if this were not so, his unique sea-victories, his marvellous personality, his overflowing humanity, combined with a courage and capacity, perhaps, never surpassed at sea, service to his great profession, King and country, his pathetic

death on board the historic *Victory*, his sailorlike recognition of the God of the sea, all this and much more must ever touch the imagination and heart of the English-speaking people. The nation will ever honor the memory of Nelson, because she sees gathered up in him, embodied and exemplified, the fine sailor qualities which gave her, and remain for her, the sovereignty of the seas.

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**The Great Convention.**—The International Sunday-school Convention, held in Toronto, was the great event of the past month. In view of the fact that so many of the readers of this paper are actively engaged in Sunday-school work, we have delayed the issue of our July number in order to give a somewhat extensive report of the gathering. On account of being a delegated convention, the attendance was, of course, not so large as at our great International Epworth League mass meeting, but the occasion was one of great interest and inspiration. Those who did not attend should have the opportunity of enjoying some of the good things that were said. We congratulate Judge Maclaren upon his election as President of the International Association. His interest in the Sunday-school is almost life-long.

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**Canada's Turn Has Come.**—Under the title, "Building Canada with Americans," Mr. Broughton Brandenburg has an article in *Collier's Weekly* which describes and deplores "the first rush of what is destined to be a mighty hegira from the United States into Western Canada." For the beginning of this movement he blames the Canadian Government, the Canadian railways and the Canadian land speculators. But he admits that "sound economic principles underlie the superficial causes that have set thousands on the move," and declares that, however much he may regret the fact, the immigration of Americans into Canada is sure to continue and increase. From an American standpoint this is the more to be regretted because, while the best blood of America is leaving the country by the Northern gate, the worst blood of Europe is pouring into the country by the eastern door. Patriotic Canadians will enjoy Mr. Brandenburg's article; but it is too much to expect them to share his grief. For our part we are very glad that so many Americans are finding homes in our land. And we think that we have a right to rejoice. We remember a time when the tide was setting very strongly the other way. In the days before our country came to

know herself, thousands upon thousands of Canadians crossed the border and settled in the United States. Thoughtful men once viewed the exodus to the south with dismay. So large was the loss to our country that at the present time there are probably from two to three million American citizens who are Canadian by parentage or birth. It is a great relief for patriotic Canadians to realize that the land of promise is no longer to the south, but to the north and west. Last year over 45,000 settlers came from the United States. This year the number may exceed 50,000. We will be glad when the number reaches 100,000. Even then it will only represent a fair return in view of the wealth of blood and treasure which Canada for a generation has been pouring into the Republic.

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**A Distinction Without a Difference.**—On May 20th eight men were charged before Magistrate Ellis, of Toronto Junction, with keeping a gambling house. The trial was the result of a raid upon a place in Toronto Junction known as the Canadian Fishing and Sporting Club. The particular offence of the establishment was that it was a resort for persons who wanted to play the races. On pleading guilty, one of the defendants was fined \$100 and the other seven \$50 each. On the same day in the east end of Toronto, 15,000 people filled the stands, thronged the lawns and lined the fences at the Woodbine racing track. Vice-royalty was there in the person of the Governor-General. Parliament was represented in the presence of Premier Whitney and most of his Cabinet. Society made the occasion brilliant with its richly gowned women and well-groomed men. But another class was there. Within easy reach of the Governor-General's box were some thirty-four betting stands, around which a great crowd surged, and to reach which from the edge of the crowd, required the strength of an athlete. Why was gambling prosecuted at Toronto Junction and smiled upon at the Woodbine? Because the Parliament has seen fit to legalize gambling provided it takes place on a race track and during the progress of a meet. No doubt the police were right when they raided the Fishing and Sporting Club and they were equally right in the eyes of the law when they protected the bookmakers. Nevertheless, plain men will see no difference between the sin of the gambler at the Junction and the sin of the gambler at the Woodbine. And they will insist that sin ought not to be made respectable by Act of Parliament.