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The Teachers Monthly

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EDITORIAL

The New Year

New Year's Day of 1919 finds us amidst new conditions. The War has ended in victory for our cause, and peace has come. It is significant that, on the day when the armistice was signed and the following days, churches all over the land were thronged with devout worshipers, giving thanks to Almighty God. There was a spontaneous and universal recognition of the fact that his power had gained the victory and that his mercy had bestowed the gift of peace.

With new conditions come new responsibilities. Our country, happily, has been saved from the devastation and ruin wrought in Europe by the War. Our rights and liberties have been preserved. How sacred is the obligation resting upon us to make our country more and more worthy of God's wonderful goodness! Peace is ours; be it ours to see that our land is filled with the fruits of righteousness.

Amongst the forces that make for national righteousness, few are more powerful than that of the Sunday School. The officers and teachers in our Schools are real nation builders, helping to mould, as they do, the lives and characters of the coming citizens of our country. It is a time for these workers to redouble their efforts that the new generation may be thoroughly Christian.

Everywhere, in secular education, in business and in industry, new plans are being made to meet the new conditions. The Sunday School should not be a laggard in the procession. It should be constantly on the alert, seeking for methods by which its work can be made more effective, and, most of all, laying hold on the divine power, which alone can give true success.

The Returning Soldiers

No welcome home can be too warm and hearty for the returning soldiers. They have fought magnificently, some of them have suffered greatly. Better soldiers than our brave Canadian boys were never found in any army. It can never be forgotten that they have fought and suffered for those who remained at home. Our dearest rights and liberties are ours to-day, because they did not count their lives dear to themselves. Their love for Canada and the Empire needs no proving. For "greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life."

In the church and Sunday School, the soldiers, as they return, will be welcomed with a special joy and gladness. It was the church and Sunday School that formed the best recruiting ground, when the War broke out and volunteer soldiers were called for. Church and School