

A CONFLICT OF IDEALS.

MR. PRESIDENT AND GENTLEMEN:—

When the President of your Wycliffe Association called me up about four weeks ago and wished to have a talk on the subject of this evening's address, I suggested to him the possibility of taking for consideration some of the aspects of the Church in the Old Country, and some of the lessons that might possibly be drawn from those aspects for ourselves in Canada. Of course I am well aware that in many ways the conditions in England are altogether different from those in Canada, but at the same time I think it worth our while to study them, and then to endeavour our utmost to see what they mean for us over here.

Well, gentlemen, I am, of course, not concerned to-night with those ordinary, matter-of-fact matters that relate to parochial life. The every-day and every-week work of a parish in the Old Country is pretty much the same as it is here. There are the Sunday services and the week day meetings, there is the preaching of the Gospel, the teaching in Sunday School, there are Bible Classes and so on. There is a great deal going on in hundreds and thousands of Parishes of which the world knows nothing, though God Himself knows a great deal. But what I am concerned with to-night, and what really concerns us as members of the Canadian Church, is to consider some of the things that stand out in English Church life, things that are seen in our papers, that are being considered by the authorities, that exercise a marked influence one way or another, and certainly cause a great deal of anxiety. Some twenty years ago, Canon Knox Little, a well-known member of the extreme section of the Church of England, wrote a book entitled,