

24,000 delegates were present. The Hon. A. S. Hardy, premier of Ontario, made an opening address in which he paid a tribute to the character and influence in public affairs of Rev. Dr. Carman, the general superintendent of the Methodist Church in Canada. Dr. Carman, in his speech welcoming the delegates to Canada, spoke in earnest defense of conservatism in religion, and advocated aggressive temperance work in a manner that called forth enthusiastic cheers.

The educative influence of such meetings must be great indeed. Our young friends from across the line have a lesson in Geography, as regards Canada, with which they are highly pleased and which they will not forget. An estimate of the Convention is given by our townsman, as follows:

Rev. Dr. Wm. Briggs, Steward Wesleyan Book-Room: The convention is very helpful in an interstate direction as well as international. It not only touches Canada, but England, and will also do good to representatives of the smaller leagues who will feel the touch of the mighty army, and will serve to cultivate higher intelligence in the young people. The particular danger of the league is that the other departments, such as the literary and the social, may dim the spiritual department. The Wesley Guild of England is wise in making the class-meeting a prominent feature of its work.

The Conference of Charities and Correction, which is composed of delegates, men and women from all states of the Union south of us held its annual convention this year in Toronto. This body deals with some of the most difficult problems of human life, the care and reformation of the weak and fallen members of society. We give the closing paragraph

of the president's address, as showing what spirit animates the Conference in its hard work:

"But even if we are living in a State where all these bad things are true, what is the course for us to take? Shall we fold our hands in idle despair? I hold a cheerful optimism, which makes me believe that the best we see to-day among the best people anywhere is a prophecy of what shall be universal some day. If we see the good and the hopeful possibilities, let the very difficulty of their attainment be our greatest incentive to effort. Does the present appear a grinding hard, unlovely time? So did the great heroic days of old to the little men among those who lived in them. The golden age has never been the present time but always in the dim past or the misty future. Let us take this age of ours, with its hard problems, its sad duties, its littleness of public men, its dearth of great leaders, its lack of faith in the things that are unseen and eternal, its over-weening confidence in the sensual and material, its subjection to the powers of wealth and greed, and make of its enormous difficulties the opportunity of heroism. Let us live our lives so well and make so deep an impression on the lives of others that even this very end of the nineteenth century shall be for us the heroic age.

"He speaks not well who doth his time
deplete,
Naming it new and little and obscure,
Ignoble, and unfit for lofty deeds.
All times were modern in the time of
them,
And this no more than others. Do thy
part
Here in the living day, as did the great
Who made old days immortal! So
shall men,
Gazing long back to this far-looming
hour.
Say: 'Then the time when men were
truly men:
Though wars grew less, their spirits
met the test,