

CHURCH MUST FACE FOREIGN PROBLEM

Canadianize the Non-English Masses by Christianity

**President Also Alludes to World Call,
Saying That Only Three-eighths of
People Evangelized—Britain Wag-
ing Altruistic War.**

"The Canadianizing of the **foreign-**
ers who are within our gates is our
greatest work, and therefore our
greatest opportunity; and this task
can be accomplished not by legisla-
tion or education, but by Christian-
izing."

These words were used last night
by Rev. W. E. Norton, D.D., Presi-
dent of the Baptist Convention of On-
tario and Quebec, in opening the
twenty-sixth annual meeting of that
body, which is assembled this week
at Walmer Road Baptist Church. Dr.
Norton devoted his address to out-
lining in a broad way the work of the
Christian Church in Canada, and in
"the great dark world outside."

"The needs of the world must be
fully appreciated by the Church; and
to do this we must get the Lord's es-
timate of the work that is to be
done," said the President. And in
responding to the world call the
Church, said the speaker, had its les-
son in the splendid example of Great
Britain, which had answered the
call to war in response to a world's
sore need.

Most Altruistic War.

"Britain," declared Dr. Norton, "is
waging the most altruistic war that
has ever been fought in the world's
history."

"Canada comes first in the perspec-
tive of our view of the needs to
which the Church should attend,"
asserted the preacher, who proceeded
to discuss at length economic condi-
tions in the Dominion, bearing upon
the work of the Church. He told
how one-third of Canada's popula-
tion was now in the cities and towns;
that in twenty years the urban popu-
lation had quadrupled, while the
rural population had only doubled,
and he urged that the city life be
kept pure. "The city dominates the
nation to-day," said he.

Problem of Non-English Masses.

The pioneer districts, where life
was isolated, and had for its aims
material gain, demanded the purify-
ing influence of the Christian
Church. "The non-English masses
who are within our gates," said the
speaker, "constitute our most serious
problem. The Canadianizing of the
foreigners who have been coming in
such numbers is our greatest work,
and therefore our greatest oppor-
tunity."

Referring to the missionary work
to be done in "the regions beyond,"
in "the great dark world outside,"
Dr. Norton said that only about
three-eighths of the world's popula-
tion had been evangelized—that is,
had heard the teachings of Christ.
One billion people had not received
as yet adequate teaching of the Chris-
tian religion.

Gain in Membership.

The report of the Committee on the
State of Religion was presented by
Rev. E. J. Stobo, whose statement
showed a net gain of 424 in the mem-
bership of the Church during the past
year.

Mr. David Bentley of Montreal

conducted the song service, which
was held for fifteen minutes before
the opening of the session, while the
devotional exercises were taken by
Rev. John MacNeill, pastor of the
Walmer Road Church.