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OPENING

Continued from page 1

speakers table were donated by Mr. James Tait and the estate of Mrs. John Williams.
Dedicatory Prayer

Following is the dedicatory prayer and dedication as given by Rev. Mr. Abbott:

"O Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the living God, who art the brightness of the Father's Glory, and the express image of His person: the Corner Stone; Bless what we now do in dedicating this Y. M. C. A. building in Thy Name, and be Thou, we beseech Thee, the beginning, the increase, and the consummation of this work, which is undertaken to Thy glory; who with the Father and the Holy Spirit livest and reignest, one God, world without end. Amen.

"In the faith of Jesus Christ we dedicate this Y. M. C. A. building in Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, to the Glory of God and to the program of Christian service under the auspices of the Y. M. C. A. in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Amen.
(Singing of Lord's Prayer by Y's Men's Chorus).

"O God, who hast laid in Zion a chief cornerstone, elect, precious, thy Son our Saviour Jesus Christ, upon whom alone Thou dost build the living temple of Thy Church; Grant unto the work of thine own hands continual increase of glory and spiritual strength, and daily make this Y. M. C. A. a living witness for Thee. Direct and bless, we pray Thee, all of the undertakings of the Y. M. C. A. in this building, and grant unto those who seek to serve Thee here such success as may tend to Thy glory and honour. We ask it in the Name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen."

Lieutenant Governor's Address

In his address Lieutenant Governor Bernard recalled that the Young Men's Association of Charlottetown was founded on January 1st, 1886. Captain John Orlebar, R. N., was its founder and first President. The early days of the Association were filled with wide variety of enriching experiences for the young men in its membership.

In 1872 the first building was constructed on Richmond Street. This was the first Y. M. C. A. building in North America built specifically for Association work. This building was therefore the first North American building erected in the first century of the Y. M. C. A. Movement. The old building was used continually until 1946 at which time temporary quarters were located in the residence formerly located on the new building site. In May of 1947 construction work on the new building began. This beautiful new building also has a distinction in that it is the first Y. M. C. A. building in North America to have been completed in the second century of this world-wide Movement.

"The construction of the building," His Honour said, "is a splendid tribute to the generosity of this City and Province in providing modern facilities for the development of our youth.

"One hundred years ago a handful of drapers assistants, dry-goods clerks, made up the members of the Y. M. C. A. Today, princes, presidents, intellectual leaders, business magnates and many thousands of boys, girls, men and women make up the membership.

"Today, scattered over the world buildings, playing fields, schools, colleges, representing investments of between three and four hundred million dollars are in use in the work of character building activities for youth.

"Perhaps familiar piles of bricks and stone bulk too largely in our minds when we consider the Young Men's Christian Association. But I like to think of them as the gifts, the gladly given offerings of the citizens, of the older men to youth. Yes, and though freely tendered they have been good investments too. In the long run, no business, no organization, no city, can rise above the quality of its Young Men. You cannot measure what the strength of youth passing generation after generation through the portals of its Y.M.C.A. has meant to the cities of the world.

"The Y. M. C. A. is an idea—an idea born not on the sober consideration of old men, but on the dreams, the unconquerable dreams of the spirit of youth.
"In these days we need no reminder of what we owe youth, in a world of unrest where the cold war of ideology is carried on

against Christianity. God is ever freshening the streams of life with the spirit of youth.

"It is necessary to look upon the visible in surveying the significance of the Young Men's Christian Association. For here is a Movement that is more than an organization, more than a vast network of buildings, committees, and equipment. Not that these are unimportant. They are powerful instruments to the development of Christian personalities and building of a Christian Association.

"Yet the true genius of the Young Men's Christian Association is of another kind; it is in the realm of things intangible. It is the specific religion which is centred in the Man of Galilee. That has given survival value for one hundred years to the Y. M. C. A. "In this world of conflict, but of marching ideals, there is a part for the Y.M.C.A. to play. It faces a challenge, an opportunity and a great responsibility. Its past justifies the hope that it will meet the future with strength, imagination, intelligence and devotion. Without these qualities, the Movement will grow sterile and fall. With these qualities the future offers great opportunities.

"Strengthened by experience, inspired by opportunity the Y. M. C. A. through its many contacts has an almost unique responsibility

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Granted, wisdom, devotion, and courage, its finest years are still ahead."

President's Address

"We have listened with great interest and a deep sense of responsibility to the impressive dedicatory service which has just been concluded," said President T. Roy Cudmore.

"One hundred years ago, a youth named George Williams, (afterwards Sir George), dreamed a dream. Out of that dream was born the Y. M. C. A., and as a result we are here this afternoon.

"The Young Men's Christian Association has lived and advanced down through the years so that the dedication today stands as a further memorial to Sir George Williams.

"In our exercises here this afternoon, the people of the Community have, as it were, re-kindled the Torch, with the hope that it may be passed on to ready and wil-

ling hands to be kept burning brightly in the future.

"This afternoon, the gentlemen on the platform, represent a truly Christian Democratic way of life. We should never forget that this priceless heritage is being constantly threatened by clever inroads on the part of cults and isms.

"In this respect, our main and chief weapon, is Christianity, of which this building is a recognized emblem.

"There has never been a period in history when the need and demands of youth were recognized as today.

"They are seeking a world of Peace, where they will be permitted to think, act and arrange their lives with a definite hope for a future worth looking forward to. "Having this in mind, the older generation of this city and province have contributed without stint of their time and substance, in making the ceremony of today an historic event.

"With the completion and dedication of this Y. M. C. A. our chief concern centres in the moulding of the lives and character of the young men and women of this city and province, who will frequent this building.

"Personal contact with Youth is absolutely necessary to develop healthy bodies, clean minds and a Christian outlook, in order to conform to the motto of the Young

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Men's Christian Association, namely "Body Mind and Spirit."

"It is obviously our duty to see to it that this new Youth Centre is a success. The enthusiastic cooperation of all our citizens will be necessary to react and maintain the very highest degree of efficiency.

"We are dealing with Youth in visionary years — habit forming years that will leave their

(Continued on page 13)

SLUGS DWINDLING

EDMONTON — (CP) — Motorists in Edmonton are becoming more honest, or they are running out of slugs to put in parking meters. When the meters were first installed six months ago, an average of forty slugs a day were found in the coin box. Now there are 12 a day.

Legion Meeting

The regular monthly meeting of the Charlottetown Branch of the Canadian Legion, B.E.S.L. will be held tonight at 8 o'clock.

General business.

Following the meeting a "Smoker" will be held.

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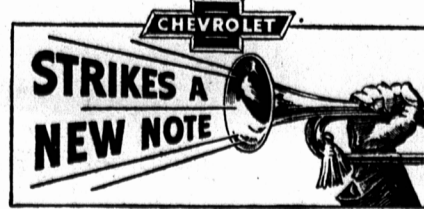
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