

But this is all changed; modern people decry this doctrine. We say, and we rightly say, that it is a shame for one to be content with the state and estate into which it has pleased God to allow him to be born. That every child is, of right, entitled to an education, to fit himself better for that which he is best able to do. That every child is entitled to be born of healthy persons, in healthy surroundings, to live under the best possible sanitary conditions, and to be educated to the best possible advantage.

Now why do we say this? Because we realize that healthy children are, of all things, the best asset we can have, for all purposes. They insure the future, they make for economic success. We constitute ourselves trustees for the future of our country, and the country gains immensely by the fact that ninety per cent. of those we educate stay at home or, at least, under the flag. But when I say "we" in this connection, I mean the state, the Dominion of Canada, whose citizens we are, or, at least, the province. A municipal corporation is too small a body, too locally circumscribed to be regarded as the trustees. It is the body of citizens as a whole. Once the idea of trusteeship for the future is held, then you are at once far beyond the bounds of any local patriotism. Look at our province, men educated in the little red school house of Ontario, Quebec, New Brunswick and Nova Scotia have held nearly every important post in this province for years. Their fathers paid the price that B. C. might be established. Education should be national. But that cannot be, on account of our peculiar constitution under the "B. N. A. Act," so, by that act, this jurisdiction is turned over to the province. It is perhaps too late to challenge the legal right of the province to pass the trusteeship on to the local municipality, although strong argument might be made that such legislation is ultra vires. But there is no moral right. And, particularly, there is no justice in passing it on and denying to the municipality the right of taxing the very things which benefit by the education of the child. Either the citizens as a whole are responsible for the child, or the one man who is the child's father is. There is no middle ground possible.

The same argument, for precisely the same reasons, applies to the health of the community. Health conditions are not bounded by local boundary lines. An epidemic of typhoid or influenza or cholera is not stayed by a notice board on Shaughnessy Heights, "Here Commences Point Grey." It is strictly a community affair. Hospitals, too, are not, and never can