

held until the close of the Russo-Japanese war. The prospect of another peace conference has been received with hearty interest all over the world, which is itself a token of success.

If arbitration treaties can through this or other agencies be negotiated between the nations of the world it will mean practically the accomplishment of universal peace. That it is not an impossible aim is shown by the advances which arbitration has made since the last Hague conference, most recently of all in the remarkably calm reference by England of the North Sea outrage to arbitration. The principle is growing in favor, and nations accept it to-day that not long since would have scorned it. Undoubtedly it is the road to peace, either between nations or parties, and as it wins wider support it will come to be recognized as one of the great world-principles. In Canada we are interested in it, not from actual or probable experience, but because Canada is herself growing in world-consciousness, and what affects the world will directly or indirectly affect Canada.

Why Japan has been Successful

ALL the world has been watching the progress of the present war and wondering at the remarkable successes which have been attending the operations of the Japanese. A nation that, comparatively speaking, has been born or wakened to life in a day, has, by repeated good turns, triumphed over an enemy that in such a conflict would have been thought invincible. The reasons for this have been variously given. Japan's nearness to the seat of war, her consequent ability to move her forces more quickly, her wonderful adaptability and modern equipment, and other such reasons, have been freely mentioned, and without doubt have had much to do with the success already won. But another reason, and one of the very chiefest, lies in a direction not ordinarily suspected.

Not so much in their ability to destroy their enemy as in the measures which they have adopted to prevent disease in their armies, lies the superiority of the Japanese over the Russians, according to a prominent

American army surgeon. "Never in the history of warfare," he says, "has a nation approached Japan in the methodical and effectual use of medical science as an ally in war." One would not have expected this from Japan, but then all of Japan's recent achievements have been in the nature of a surprise. The news despatches have been telling of the terrible mortality among the Russian forces because of the lack of sanitary precautions; but at the same time and in the same country, exceedingly unhealthy as Manchuria is known to be, "the loss by the Japanese from preventable disease in the first six months of the conflict will be but a fraction of one per cent." This has been made possible only by the utmost vigilance. Medical officers have made examinations and tests, have set guards around dangerous places, have supervised the billeting of the soldiers and the cooking of the food, have practically stamped out contamination in every form, and have even given the men lectures in personal hygiene. The result has been the general good health of the armies, which in itself has been one of the chief reasons of the Japanese successes.

Nevertheless Japan would gladly be rid of the war. She has in fact expressed her willingness to arbitrate, though by no means forced to that measure by circumstances. The war is said to be costing the little island kingdom two millions a week, and Japanese officials who look for the conflict to continue for a long time, estimate the total cost at not less than \$1,000,000,000. On the same basis, however, Russia's bill will be \$2,000,000,000.

Canada and Music

WITH progress in so many other directions, it would be a matter of surprise and regret if Canada had not made corresponding advances in the finer arts. A nation's well-being is not expressed fully in its business relations; there must be a balancing of commerce with art, an action of one upon the other, and a healthful proportion of the two in daily life. We have some art in Canada; not as much as older countries have, but enough to prove to ourselves and the world that we have not over-