

And here the wise teacher will prove his guide, philosopher and friend. For such a child the sympathetic teacher of even mediocre ability can do much. And, in addition to what he himself has the ability to do, he can now, thanks to a noble altruism, enlist the co-operation of men and women, big brothers and big sisters, in the outside world, who are only too glad to be true intellectual foster-parents of the future leaders of the *corps d'elite* in the world's great upward struggle towards the purer air and the clearer day.

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Some time ago Mr. Brotman, on his return from a leisurely trip in the far East, delivered a very instructive address at a luncheon of the Foreign Bureau of the Vancouver Board of Trade. He said he had been struck by the fine type of men in the strategic outposts of the British commercial world—men of the highest worth, gentlemen. On seeking an explanation he was answered as follows:—

"When a junior is required in an agency abroad, a

request is forwarded to the head office, commonly London. The head office advertises the position, and asks four questions of the applicant: (1) What education have you had, and what references can you furnish regarding your education and character? (2) In what sports are you interested? (3) What part did you take in the Great War? (4) What do you know about the business in which we are engaged?

"Provided the applicant can furnish satisfactory answers to the first three questions, it is quite safe for him to say, 'I know nothing about the business in which you are engaged'—for the men already in the field will teach the new man all that he will be required to know about the work in hand."

It is interesting to note that with this very practical man, the British man of business, not specific preparation for a particular task, but character, trained intelligence and devotion to duty are the things that matter.

The Wayside Philosopher

ABRACADABRA.

Hon. W. L. Mackenzie King.

Since last writing we have welcomed to our province Hon. William Lyon Mackenzie King, Premier of Canada. Everywhere he was enthusiastically received by large meetings. All classes, irrespective of political allegiance, turned out to greet him.

This is well. Whatever his rank and standing among the Premiers of Canada may be or become, we can always be sure that any man deemed worthy of the premiership of our fair Canada will be a man of outstanding character and ability. We trust that such men will always be splendidly received and entertained when they come to visit us.

Rt. Hon. Arthur Meighen.

Just now we have with us Hon. W. L. Mackenzie King's constitutional opponent, Rt. Hon. Arthur Meighen, leader of His Majesty's Opposition at Ottawa.

The force of circumstances makes Mr. Meighen's visit more or less of a party occasion and prevents his being assured of the welcome that might otherwise be his.

Nevertheless, we welcome him. It is to be hoped that all the outstanding men in Canadian politics of all parties will favour us, from time to time, with frequent visits.

We need their presence to give us a proper education in our Federal duties. They need the opportunities for study and observation which such visits afford. May we hope that the Hon. Mackenzie King and Rt. Hon. Arthur Meighen will form the habit of seeing us often and bringing their friends with them.

The British Elections.

While all must rejoice at a result that gives a stable Government to Britain, much sympathy will be felt with Ramsay MacDonald in his defeat.

Whether MacDonald could have established himself in the good graces of the British electorate had he been permitted by circumstances to carry on for a year, or more longer, is hard to say. He would certainly have been much stronger.

Handicapped from the outset by the extremists of his own party, who scarcely ever failed to harass him by their unwisdom, he finally fell a prey to the vexation and disappointment of the Liberal Party leaders, who daily saw their expectation of return to power

upon the ruins of the Labour Government, becoming more and more impossible.

Maddened to think that the Labour Party, instead of a step to success, was becoming an ever-increasing bar, stung to see this creature of their own making delaying and defeating them, the Liberals of England rode MacDonald to an issue. He fell, and they fell with him. He was routed; they were nearly annihilated.

What will follow in Labour and Liberal circles no one can forecast, but, did not the election fight develop phases of political thinking, that presage the cleavage of Labour and the passage of MacDonald, Snowden, and others, to other quarters.

Shortly, it would appear that the responsibilities of office are the best educators and strongest factors in curing Labourites of those dangerous ideas so common in Labour appeals and discussions.

The Peace River.

The Rt. Hon. Arthur Meighen has added his endorsement of the Peace River movement to that of Hon. W. L. Mackenzie King.

While one regrets to see another good man go wrong, it robs Opposition of any party or factional suggestion.

We have in Canada, to-day, an agricultural situation described in its B. C. portion as "serious" by R. H. Pooley, K.C., Opposition leader, in a speech in which the *Star* and other papers find much to admire in spirit, thoughtfulness and its promise of unexpected ability in the speaker. In Manitoba and the Northwest it has been referred to as "grave," "menacing," "discouraging," etc. In Ontario it has been spoken of as "comparatively speaking, hopeless." In Quebec it has been termed "unfortunate," "unpromising," "unpleasing," and in the Maritime Provinces it has been diagnosed as "discouraging," "disastrous."

The proposed remedy is to open a further agricultural region removed from markets, advantages, etc.

Talking recently to the writer, one who was well versed in the farming situation of the Northwest, denounced it as "criminal" to bring in immigrants to encumber an already ruinous situation.

Hon. W. L. Mackenzie King and Rt. Hon. Arthur Meighen are good lawyers and may be good statesmen, but they did not build their reputations in law on the logic that lies behind their Peace River programmes. If to cure mire you have only to add mud, their remedy is