

people," has a different connotation in different localities, be those small or large, and that migration from one to the other is, for the teacher, attended with obvious disadvantages. The just inference from this state of affairs, and, indeed, the stumbling block to progress, is the idea that the possession of certain facts, or the acquisition of certain powers by the methods laid down by certain regulations and in a certain atmosphere, is calculated to bring about the education of a people. Is it possible, then, by adding together these various provincial ideals, to bring about a national ideal? or is it something that comes not by addition nor accretion nor averages, not by might nor by power, but by the spirit moving in the hearts of men, independent of locality? If it is the latter, then the method of developing a national idea for Canada must be through the inspiration of men and women, rather than through the enactment of laws.

For this purpose was Macdonald College founded, and from her walls are to go forth those who will proclaim the gospel of equal opportunities for education for all the youth of Canada, who will urge that the spirit of education is of vastly greater importance than the letter, and who will consider the practicability, the suitability, and the value of the education for the people, to the end that the circumstances of the people and the possibilities under ordinary circumstances may prevail in the ordering of education. Here in Canada, and especially in this College to-day, as we gather in this first public assembly, can we not recognise the picture that Mr. Wells draws for us in his address on "The Discovery of the Future," delivered before the Royal Institution some five years ago, when he said:

"Everything seems pointing to the belief that we are entering upon a progress that will go on forever with an ever widening and ever more confident stride. The reorganization of society that is going on now beneath the traditional appearances of things is a kinetic reorganization. We are getting into marching order. We have struck our camp for ever, and we are out upon the roads—there is no shock, no