

occupation. The result of this tendency is to turn loose upon the world a flood of semi-educated men, who know very little outside of their own special line. It is hard to convince such men that there is more than is dreamt of in their philosophy. But this disadvantage of our modern systems is a very minor one compared with the loss of mental vigour which might otherwise go into literature for its own sake or into the fine arts. The sole question now is, Does it pay? We hope to rally to our side those who do not accept this test as being the only touchstone for acceptance. But it is quite evident that the mind of the country is being dwarfed instead of being enlarged by the present system in our Universities. Here is another subject upon which we would like to receive suggestions.

Some Modern
Tendencies.

The existence of Canada as a separate nationality depends on her people being correctly and honestly informed as to her material requirements, and we have, therefore, devoted and will devote the space necessary to a fair discussion of the questions connected with that subject. The policy of THE WEEK is to invite discussion, to see that contestants receive fair play; and when the material on both sides of a question is handed in, to suggest, applaud or criticise as the case requires. There is only one object in view—the good of Canada. Canada before all, but Canada honest and truthful, and above all intelligent. We have on this continent, across the border, a warning in the bigoted and ignorant partizanship of an unfair and untruthful press. On this side of the line we suffer, perhaps, not so much, but we do suffer from the same evil. No sane man governs his view of either party by what he reads in the organs which serve or oppose either. When we grow to be an older country we may afford to be more generous, but we will never become so if the leading men on the press do not play a bigger game. They ought to know that they have influence upon ignorant people and their reckless and unjustifiable attacks upon the opposite side do great harm to the country. The pictorial artists who caricature the leader of the Government or of the Opposition and their friends should not lend their talents to making these men appear odious. A joke is a joke and every man ought to be able to enjoy one, but that is a different thing from striving to render an honourable opponent contemptible or hateful. Against all such tendencies we will protest, while at the same time we will strive to give information on debatable questions fairly and accurately. Some questions admit of no debate—truth and falsehood—honesty and dishonesty—right and wrong—loyalty and treason. Between these, there can be no compromise. On these points we trust we shall be found always on the side of truth and justice, of Canada and the Queen.

The Treaty
Question.

The position of Great Britain as to her colonies with reference to the treaty making power is anomalous. The trade treaties with Belgium and the German Confederation date from before Confederation. There has been a tremendous change in public opinion in England since the day when those treaties were made. Such treaties would not be made now without consulting Canada and Australia. A claim is put forward by many that Canada should have the right to make her own treaties without reference to the rest of the Empire. This extreme view is as wrong on the one side as the other extreme view, that England can barter away Colonial interests without consulting her colonies, is wrong on the other side. The truth as usual lies between the two extremes. A great

deal of ignorant nonsense was talked about English injustice to Canadian interests in the matter of copyright. The fact was that England's action in that matter was of the greatest benefit to Canada. On the trade question, in the same way, the "most-favoured-nation" clause, letting in England, lets in those colonies which agree to the terms of a treaty containing such a clause. Canada has dissented from thirteen treaties. Each of these thirteen cases should be capable of explanation. The result of the refusal apparently is that in thirteen cases Canada has lost markets she might have got on favourable terms. What has she gained by her refusal? Can any of our correspondents enlighten us? Statistics are not amusing, but in bad times everybody must go to work at making up accounts, and a prudent man will see where the leakages are. Is it not possible that here are thirteen leakages?

Chattel Mortgages
in Ontario.

The Monetary Times deserves the thanks of the community for pointing out the injustice done to Ontario by the London Investor's Review. The figures given by the Monetary Times are undoubtedly correct, and are, as far as they go, an answer to the Investors' Review. But there is one point which the Monetary Times has not covered, and that is that these chattel mortgages by farmers and yeomen do not mean a further indebtedness for the amount stated upon their face. They are in most cases taken by the loan companies as collateral security only to real estate mortgages. If an instalment of principal or the interest on a farm mortgage falls in arrear the company takes for the amount in arrear a further security on the chattels or stock, as the case may be, of the mortgagor. One full payment releases both mortgages. These chattel mortgages must therefore not be taken as an evidence of anything more than as security for an indebtedness already incurred and accruing, and not for a fresh indebtedness. The Investors' Review should make the *amende* to Ontario. It was the duty of that paper to point out what it thought was a dangerous place for the investment of money, but when the true figures are presented and the situation explained, it ought, at least, to state the other side of the case as presented by the Monetary Times and ourselves.

London's
Visitors

The Honorable Artillery Company, of Boston, and the Yale Rowing crew, are placing Americans very much *en evidence* in London. All roads lead to Rome, they used to say; all roads lead to London now-a-days. It cannot but be pleasant to Londoners in particular, and Englishmen in general to receive notable visitors from all parts of the known world. It is an acknowledgment of supremacy, and England is mighty enough to forget and forgive little impertinences and impatient ebullitions of jealousy on the part of her Trans-Atlantic off-shoots. The more one philosophizes over History—the more one sees History repeat itself. The daily papers in the ancient metropolis of the world, or what answered to the daily papers, the *acta diurna*, chronicled the arrival of savage potentates, Parthians and Medes and Elamites, and the dwellers in Mesopotamia and in Judaea and Cappadocia, in Pontus and Asia. The Cæsar of the day laid himself out to entertain the foreign guests just as the Prince of Wales does to-day. The mob cheered, the vulgar gazed, and the women talked about the latest new "lion" just as they do in London in the end of the nineteenth century. Human nature is human nature still.