Though the work the sections can hardly be said to have been fairly divided, some members contributing much more than others, while of a certain number the names have been conspicuous by their absence from the yearly programmes; it may, on the whole, be said that the promise of the opening session has been fulfilled in the successive meetings of the last eight years. In their chosen branches of study and research, all the four sections have added not a little to the sum of the world's knowledge, and if this total be enlarged by the aggregate of work done by the affiliated societies, the whole makes an intellectual product of which the Dominion has no reason to be ashamed.

The points most criticized in the constitution of the Society were the combination of science and literature and its bi-lingual character. As to the former, the first President took occasion, in the address already quoted from, to show that, instead of being a drawback, it was an advantage. After indicating the close relations between the two departments of intellectual effort, he thus expressed his satisfaction at the Society's comprehensiveness:—" For these reasons I rejoice that our Society embraces both science and letters, and I am profoundly convinced that it is for the highest interest of Canada that her scientific men shall be men of culture, and that her literary men shall be thoroughly imbued with scientific knowledge and scientific habits of thought." In a paper read before the Society on the relation of such bodies to the State, the late Dr. Todd showed that New South Wales had anticipated Canada by forming a Royal Society on the like broad basis, its avowed object being " the encouragement of studies and investigations in science, art, literature and philosophy." Lord Lansdowne also expressed his satisfaction at its twofold division, which, he said, greatly enhanced the interest and value of the Transactions.

As to the other point which was the subject of discussion—the union of French and English-speaking members—