

ment, not speculation. In regard to the limitations recommended, the Insurance Company may rejoin that this unduly limits the field of investment. So far as this objection is pertinent decreased earnings might mean higher premiums. But this in turn would be part of the insurance a policy holder would pay to be insured against the results of fluctuations in the company's earnings.

WE had better be. All kinds of esteemed Englishmen come to Canada for a trip. They make a meteoric journey from coast to coast. If they have the credentials we put them up at our clubs; we take them into the bosoms of our families, **CANADIANS** and if we especially desire to do **DISILLUSIONED** them proud, we put our reporters on them to get interviews telling us what a nation of great men and women we are. Desirous to tell the truth and to oblige us, they become adjectively enthusiastic, and we rejoice to see that their judgment is not wanting when they go home. They may, if they desire to do the thing up in proper form, write magazine articles or give interviews in which they repeat what they said here. Thus, O friends, is the glorious cause of imperial unity promoted and the supremacy of the flag upheld!

But there never was a basket of peaches without a bad one in it. Variation from type is what the psychologists call the difference from the norm, and Public Opinion, the English publication, has the effrontery to permit some objectionable person who has lately been in Canada outrageously to slander us and to puncture large and serious holes in the fabric of inter-imperial civility. What does this culprit say? Simply that "The Canadian is at heart as great a hustler for money as the Yankee but he does not know how to spend it when he makes it." Serious charge. O! brother Canadian, are you guilty? Do you stow it away in an old sock? Or do you buy motor cars and winter mushrooms? But let us hear some more of the docket. "Canada is one of the dullest of countries to live in." And yet the death rate is lower than in England and suicide is comparatively rare. However, it is our manifest duty all to go and die forthwith. "The buildings in the big cities are poor in the extreme compared with those in the United States." Give us time. This is a young country. Most of us—including the buildings—are still poor. In a few years we and the buildings will be rich—we with dollars; the buildings with solid gold exteriors as affected by the Phoenicians who built the Byrsa. And the final blow: "All that England can and does do for Canada is to send her labourers to clear the soil." No more capital, no more professional men, no more schoolmasters, even no more English bricklayers to tell Canadian exponents of the trade that it is bad form for them to fill their hods

with their week's wages in place of carrying them home in forty dollar walrus hide valises.

Thus and thus does P. B. F.—the writer in Public Opinion—shove Canada into the slough of despond. Inability to spend our own money; with a dreary and drowsy people; with buildings that are impecunious and with accommodation only for English gentlemen who desire to cut down trees, we are at last shown up in our true colours. And they are modified tones of grey on a ground of the blackest of black.

AS we grow old we want to celebrate our achievements, tell and re-tell the story of our labours, and indicate how well we did at certain crises. It is well that human nature is so constituted that the

JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS points at which we fail are soon forgotten, while the memories of our little triumphs remain with us always. Yet the progress of a people or a nation is the sum total of the progress of the individual members of the state. The progress of a church or a great society of any kind is but the total of the triumphs and victories of its leaders and members.

So the Methodist church does well to pause and consider the half-century of labour performed by Dr. Carman and Dr. Potts—two of its leaders. The Methodist Church in Canada has had some great leaders through all the years since Methodism crossed the border from the South. They were men of passion and enthusiasm, often lacking in education but always apparently having some breadth of view. The Church has gone steadily on from union to union until it is a united body presenting a strong front to the enemy. The four that united in 1884 chose Dr. Carman as one of their two superintendents. To-day he is an absolute monarch, no one having been appointed to succeed the late Dr. Williams. Dr. Carman is Archbishop. Working more along educational lines, Dr. Potts holds an almost equal place so far as influence and importance is concerned. His work in connection with Victoria College will entitle him to an imperishable record in the heart and memory of the Church which has been his pride for half a century.

One thought suggests itself in connection with those two distinguished churchmen—they owe much to the ability to express themselves clearly and forcibly in public speech. To be a great orator a man must be a clear thinker. He must be more. He must cultivate the art of taking hold of an audience and leading it to an understanding of what is in his mind. To do so, he must cultivate simplicity and readiness. Among English Canadians oratory is neglected in the schools and colleges; there is scarcely a professor in a university who has attempted to analyse, teach or practise the art of public speaking. At Laval and other French-Canadian colleges, the subject is given due attention.

Mr. Courtney Argues for C. S. R.

MR. J. M. Courtney, for many years deputy-minister of the finance department at Ottawa, is a man who ought to be in a position to give good advice on Civil Service Reform. Last Saturday before the Ottawa Canadian Club, speaking of the ludicrousness of a Dominion Cabinet Council being held to sanction the appointment of a new messenger to carry parcels, he said: "It seems pitiable to find fourteen men, burthened with the cares of state, meeting together to sanction the appointment of a messenger, and yet every appointment must be made by Order-in-Council. . . . The business of looking after the civil service should be given to men having nothing else to do. On them should be laid the burden of appointments, promotions, retirements and dismissals."

He suggests that a Civil Service Commission should be appointed, and that the choice be left with the Senates of the Universities. This is a new idea, and at first glance seems scarcely workable.

In short, Mr. Courtney would organise the Civil Service at Ottawa and the Civil Services of the various Provinces as bank staffs are organised, and promote on merit. "Mr. Clouston, Mr. Walker, Mr. Hebden, Mr. Stikeman, Mr. Wilkie, Mr. Coulson, Mr. Burn, all won their way up to the respective general managerships from the junior ranks." Such a reform could not be effected without doing away with the present patronage system, and the little politicians hate to give it up.

Those who think with Mr. Courtney, and are willing to join a Civil Service Reform League should send in their names. Such a League will shortly be formed.