

## The Hospitality of Quebec

The selection of the ancient City of Quebec for the 1920 Convention was a wise move on the part of the executive of the Union of Canadian Municipalities, for not only were the attractions of this beautiful city sufficient to bring a larger number of delegates than usual, but each delegate went away satisfied that the reputation for hospitality that French Canada has always enjoyed was quite safe in the hands of the Mayor and Council. From the hour of arrival to the hour of leaving, the comfort of the guests was attended to with the innate courtesy that distinguishes the French-Canadian character, and the display of flags and plants, the demonstrations of the police and firemen, the trip on

the beautiful St. Lawrence, the inspection of the harbor, the drive to Spencer Wood and the splendid banquet were not mere displays of the wealth of the capital city of Quebec, but were special evidence of the desire of the citizens to please. If these demonstrations of wholesome and generous hospitality were made to impress those coming from other provinces they more than succeeded, but those of us who know French Canada intimately, and particularly the City of Quebec, know that the spirit of hospitality as shown to the delegates was perfectly natural to the character of the people. Mayor Samson and his colleagues have forged another link in that "bonne entente" chain so desirable in the building up of a united Canada.

## The King and the Housing Problem

"The Proper solution of the housing problem lies not merely in the provision of more and better houses and the clearance of the slum areas, but in the far-sighted planning which will put on proper lines the development of our centres of population."

In the above words delivered as part of the reply to a congratulatory address that was presented by the Inter-Allied Housing and Town Planning Congress upon "the services to the cause of housing and town planning" rendered by the British Government, His Majesty the King not only placed the present housing problem in a nutshell, but presented clearly and cogently the position and meaning of town planning in the future development of our cities and towns. The message should and does apply particularly to Canada because of the vast urban development continually taking place in all parts of the country—a development that up to now has been lopsided.

We would, in particular, draw attention to the

term "far-sighted planning," in the King's message, which means something more than the town plans that some of our municipalities have bought from "town planners" whose ability lies more in the drawing of pretty pictures than in actual construction along sane hygienic and economic lines; it means town planning that will pay the community to put into practice. Canada is fortunate in her own town planning engineers—men who understand the characteristics and ambitions of her people and know how to plan accordingly. But they want a chance to show what they can do, and as there are about 900 urban municipalities in the Dominion, every one of which should have a town plan that is workable, there is no reason why our own engineers should not be kept busy. There is no doubt that the municipal councils of today have a personal responsibility in the future of their respective communities, for as the village or town is planned today, so the city will be built tomorrow.

## Populations of the Leading American Cities

The cities of the United States would seem to have entered into a population competition, if the many published analytical lists of larger centres are a criterion. The City of New York, not having any American city to compete with, is now trying to show that it has a larger population than London and the smaller of the larger cities by showing the rapid advance in population during the last decade, are trying to convince the world that at their present rate of increase they will soon beat the larger cities in population. We in Canada have no such urban populations to boast of yet, but there is plenty of time. Even now, according to the following list, the City of Montreal would rank seventh, the City of Toronto twelfth, and the City of Winnipeg nineteenth in American cities, and there are quite a dozen other Canadian cities, such as Vancouver, Hamilton, Calgary, Edmonton, Quebec and Halifax that are growing so fast that within a comparative short time they will overtop their American competitors in population.

City.	Population		
	1920.	1910.	1900.
New York City ..	5,621,151	4,766,883	3,437,202
Chicago .. .. .	2,701,212	2,185,283	1,698,575
Philadelphia .. .	1,823,158	1,549,008	1,293,697
Detroit. . . . .	993,739	465,766	285,704
Cleveland. . . . .	796,836	560,663	381,768
St. Louis. . . . .	773,000	687,029	575,238
Boston. . . . .	747,923	670,585	560,892
Baltimore. . . . .	733,826	558,485	508,957
Pittsburg .. . . .	588,193	533,905	451,512
Los Angeles .. . .	575,480	319,198	102,479
San Francisco .. .	508,410	416,912	342,782
Buffalo. . . . .	505,875	423,715	352,387
Milwaukee. . . . .	457,147	373,857	285,315
Washington. . . . .	437,414	331,069	278,718
Newark. . . . .	415,609	347,469	246,070
Cincinnati. . . . .	401,158	363,591	325,902
New Orleans .. . .	387,408	339,075	287,104
Minneapolis .. . .	380,498	301,408	202,718