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CONCERNING THE CHOICE OF A SITE FOR THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

1. INTRODUCTION.

WHERE is the best site for a university? The last two sections (pages 32 to 36) of this article reply to this question and give a concise exposition of the reasons which have determined the nature of the answer.

Should a university be placed in a town, in the suburbs of a city, or in the country? The question is an extremely important one. It is an interesting one for Canadians because the rapid expansion of Canada already demands the establishment of institutions devoted to higher education in additional centres throughout the Dominion; the past two years have seen the foundation of two provincial universities in Western Canada and the passing of an act to provide for the reservation of lands for the establishment of a third in British Columbia. In the East, in Western Ontario, it will not be long before the rapidly increasing population will require another university in addition to those already existing at Toronto and Kingston.

The question of the nature of the site which should be selected for a Canadian university is one which can be discussed in a general way without direct reference to any specific locality. This is so because, in Canada, the universities are established not so much to supply an existing want as to anticipate the needs of the future. Canada is in the making. Her fate depends very largely upon the actions of those who are entrusted now with the direction of her policies. In establish-