

A CANADIAN CLEARING-HOUSE FOR DISCUSSION.

The Problems.

Is not the time ripe in Canada for the formation of a national society for the full and free discussion of our political and economic and social problems?

The questions that face Canadians have greatly multiplied in recent years. Growth has brought growing pains. In a decade we have had a generation's normal industrial change. Social and political unrest in Britain and the United States is proving contagious. We are yearly shouldering new responsibilities of nationhood. Foreign policy is becoming of vital interest. For years we have been threshing out the question of our relations to the rest of the Empire, but have not yet reached a definite solution. New political expedients are being advocated to meet new problems of government. This year Saskatchewan is proposing to adopt the initiative and referendum; is this real or sham democracy? What of that other expedient, also borrowed from the United States, but based on contrary principles, city government by commission? Is our federal system working satisfactorily? Does political corruption prevail in Canada to an abnormal degree, and, so far as it does exist, is it to be accepted as a permanent fact? What housing policy,