

MAKING THE MOST OF EXISTING PROVISIONS

Some of the provisions recommended herein already exist in more or less developed and organized form in some places. In the matter of the highest institutions, such as Technical Colleges, Colleges of Agriculture and Schools of Domestic or Household Science, Canada appears to be well equipped in numbers. They could all be used to their utmost capacity and to great advantage in connection with the education of teachers and other leaders in all departments of Industrial Training and Technical Education.

It is not to be inferred that the classes (or schools) of any division require buildings, equipment or staff for themselves, wholly separate from what is required for the classes (or schools) in other divisions. Whether an institution should have accommodation and facilities for more than one kind of classes (or schools) is a matter to be decided according to local conditions. There are undoubted advantages from having classes of the different divisions (and of different kinds in the same division) in one institution, and there are advantages from having the more elementary classes in a building or buildings convenient to the homes of the pupils. Local needs, conditions and resources furnish the only adequate data for guidance in that respect.

URGENCY FOR ACTION AND SOME OF THE ADVANTAGES

The development of trained ability for carrying out undertakings in connection with our civilization is the most important duty at the present time pressing upon the people for discharge. It presses upon the people as individuals and communities and in their capacity as organized Provincial governments. When properly trained for his job, one of the first effects observable is that the workman likes his work, understands it, has ability to do it well and therefore is sure of obtaining reasonably good returns. The finest and highest of such developments are in the character of the man, in his managing ability and in the spirit and methods of co-operating with his fellow-workers and others in the community. What is required is that the individual worker shall possess intelligence, practical ability and co-operating good-will. These are not inherited; they are acquired by education and technical training. They always have been acquired thus since the beginning of civilization. In recent years changed and changing conditions have required new means and the use of new instrumentalities. The institutions to be affected by this development are elementary schools, secondary schools and the higher institutions, such as colleges and universities. In the process of development all that is good shall be conserved, only what is necessary should be added and provision made for all the people and all the occupations.