



This is an age of statistics. They tell us, among other things, that today's average twelve-year-old Canadian boy and girl can jump 5 feet 7 inches (or 1.70 metres) and 5 feet 4 inches (or 1.62 metres) respectively.

Fortunately there are no average Canadian children — if there were, track meets would end in ties. Some boys jump six feet, and some four. Some girls jump farther than some boys. Some Canadian girls and boys speak French, some English, and some both. Some speak Gaelic, Japanese, Iroquois, Italian, Ukrainian or Portuguese. Some live on prairie farms, some in Montreal duplexes; and some are apprentice deck hands on Newfoundland fishing smacks.

In this issue of CANADA TODAY/D'AUJOURD'HUI we cannot look at them all, but we will look at some, present and past, and try to suggest how life can feel when one is young and living in North America, above the 49th parallel. Feelings are best seen from the corner of the eye; so we give you the Hanks of Manitoba, some pictures, some essays, a story, some recollections and a number of observations by people past the first glow of youth.