

support of education and restrict its expenditure on that service because times are hard, it thereby dooms itself to comparative ignorance and consequent poverty. Weakness or apathy in the support of education, from the elementary schools to the universities and technical colleges, is sure to result in lower levels of intelligence, less practical ability and narrower co-operating good-will. It has been said that one man is as good as another. Be that as it may, the same boy, youth and man, when educated for an occupation and citizenship, is a much more capable and valuable citizen than he could be without the educational training. Our people, as a whole, need encouragement and stimulation to spend generously and courageously on education.

Agriculture is to be regarded as a national interest as well as an occupation followed by individuals to earn their living. As a national interest very much more can be done and should be done for its further improvement. We will have to rely, in the main, on the improvement of agriculture and the further development of our other natural resources and industries to enable us to maintain stable conditions of prosperity, to pay our way as a nation, and to pay our public debt. Moreover, in the keener competitions we are sure to meet in the world's markets we cannot expect to hold our place unless our people are as well informed, as well trained and as well organized as others. I like to think of Canadians as I know them as being individually of good natural capacity. If the strength and power of a nation can be thought of as the sum total of the ability and character of the units of its population, then Canada would stand very high; but the sum total of a nation's power and prosperity is not to be measured by adding together the

values of all the units of the population as separates. It depends on whether the units are organized for effective accomplishment. On the productive side of its agriculture Canada is, as yet, very imperfectly and incompletely organized. This does not refer to the organization of the Departments of Agriculture of the Governments, Dominion or Provincial, but to the lack of local organization of farmers in municipalities, townships and parishes, for the specific purpose of improving agriculture and increasing production. Great Britain has made provision for continuing the war-time County Agricultural Committees.

It seems to me there should be a Neighbourhood Improvement Association, grouped around an illustration farm, in every community of farmers in Canada. That would be one means whereby the people would organize themselves so that the ability of the natural leaders of the locality would be brought into full use and full play for the benefit of the neighbours, the development of the leaders themselves, and the improvement of the community. That is cited as an example of what more needs to be done in only one field of development. Such a scheme of organization, when in full operation, might be expected to increase the annual value of the out-put of the farms by from 20 per cent upwards. That estimate is not a mere conjecture. It is based on knowledge of what has already been accomplished in the neighbourhood of Illustration Farms under the Commission of Conservation. At the current range of prices 20 per cent increase would represent between \$300,000,000 and \$350,000,000 annually, as the weather conditions were less or more favourable.

In the experimental farms, with their research departments, illustrations, and educational publicity, and