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THE evolution of the human brain is a process in natural law which seems to have been invested with an eternity of progress.

It is in keeping with every evidence of the Unchanging Love that this most wonderful of all His off-spring should have been enfranchised with possibilities of insight that, humanly speaking, are without limit.

Fragmentary remains of "lost" art that flourished thousands of years ago speak to us in the most conclusive terms of the fact that time is no dissolvent of human genius. According to the Old Record, everything in the garden of good things was freely permitted to man. One tree only was surely a modest reservation; with- held, but the impish curiosity of man must get at the root of that tree as well, and his devilish ingenuity no less. His god-like endowments have been ceaselessly productive ever since.

The purpose of this article is not to encourage any disposition to sit down in drivelling, unproductive admiration of past achievement, but in the light of our wonderful attainments, to be up and doing; to strike into new fields in that great unexplored territory which is wider and deeper than anything that has yet been investigated.

As we write the great upheaval in Central Europe is screaming from the depths of its mad blood lust for the service of man's brain to the production of anything and everything that will facilitate the blasting of human life. On all sides, in every new organization for victory," the first line is delegated to the scientists, the presiding geni of the

A "DEPARTMENT OF INVENTIONS" FOR CANADA

By the Editor

laboratory and workshop who are expected to concentrate the last capacity of their grey matter to what Sir Ian Hamilton calls "inventions of the devil."

Now we will not stay to con-

been the product of the sweat of the soul, sometimes of the very life's blood of the penniless toiler. We find no partiality in the distribution of talents. "The ranks" come in for a no less generous

and the rascality and envenomed spite of competitors on the other, it is astonishing that so many of our labor-saving mechanical wonders ever materialized.

These records are part of our national biographies. Their story in some respects is not likely to be repeated in the lives of succeeding and more humanized generations. Men have now and will continue to hold a certain guarantee against infuriated mobs of workers who imagine they were being robbed of the only means of earning their daily bread by some "new fangled machine," but we

are still a long way from the point at which the penniless genius can depend on help rather than hindrance in his efforts to materialize.

It has been suggested that one of the greatest "planks" that could be inserted into a national policy would be the establishment of a "Department of Inventions." Money has been squandered to the ex-



The binder makes a holiday of harvest compared to all it has superseded.

template this unthinkable perversion of God's greatest gift to man any longer than to ask the question: If nations are willing to spend what they are now lavishing upon the hellish business of devising new methods for the wholesale and quick destruction of human life, why in the name of that great God of Love will they in peaceful times grudge a bare fraction of that vast expenditure to encourage and facilitate inventions which are designed to help and to bless mankind?

The path of the inventor in times of peace has invariably been a thorny one. Monied men have done some remarkable things in the course of their leisured lives, but the really great things have

outpoured than "rank," which is but "the guinea stamp" and cannot buy an endowment of brains any more than its money can command a monopoly of health.

It raises a storm of indignation in the soul of decency to-day as it recalls how kings and governments and worse than all—"the great plain people"—treated those silent heroes of our industrial progress who knew nothing but penury and persecution till death befriended them.

It was bad enough in those heathenish times when the inventor with his great idea struggling for birth had to contend with a poverty of means, but when to this there was added the persecution of the mob on the one hand

tent of millions by party politicians upon "public works," the utility of which never will be apparent and never will be admitted except by the coterie of grafters who have benefited by them. Imposing and costly structures furnished, decorated and equipped out of all proportion to the fitness of things have been reared, and if there ever was a certainty in the interpretation of motives, it is that the supreme purpose in all the extravagance was that of political advertising.

The husks, so to speak, of these splendid institutions, have been garnished and decorated with all the trappings of a travelling wax-work, while the kernel has been