

science, may be expected to come primarily from the museums and collections, existing under the auspices of Governments, Universities and Historical Associations throughout the Dominion of Canada. It is hoped by the kindness of these authorities to obtain such catalogues as exist of their collections of all kinds. These the Central Committee will be able to collate deliberately and form an idea of their place in the scheme, as long as possible in advance.

The exhibits will thus ultimately arrive at the appointed moment, already classified, to be put together so as to make each branch consecutive and complete.

Families throughout the Dominion may be the possessors of valuable collections, or of individual books, portraits, clothing, weapons, medals and other objects, descended to them from historic ancestors or by choice or chance fallen into their hands. It is earnestly hoped that every person who has a patriotic desire to contribute to the accomplishment of this exhibition of Canadian history, into whose hands this paper may fall, will give some attention to the subject. He will help the committee by forwarding to the secretary at Toronto a list of any articles which he thinks may be of interest, either in his own possession or which he may know to be obtainable in his neighborhood.

To perfect the research for such materials, and to facilitate the process of selecting and arranging them, it will be necessary for the Committee to possess volunteer local secretaries, in every city and county, throughout the Dominion. The Local Universities and Historical Societies are earnestly relied on to give the benefit of their advice in the selection of these local officers. Individual ladies and gentlemen who have the object at heart, and have a few hours of leisure in the week which they could devote to it, are invited to forward their names to the Secretary.

Amongst the readers of the CANADIAN MAGAZINE, probably the best audience to which the plan of operations for the Canadian Historical Exhibition can be addressed, are numbers who have become subscribers from patriotic interest in Canadian literature, and in the expression of independent Canadian opinions apart from the purely literary attraction of the contents of the MAGAZINE. They have faith in Canada, and therefore they have hopes for Canadian literature, and support the media which are necessary for its expression.

To precisely the same motive, the programme of the Canadian Historical Exhibition will appeal. Imagination is the necessary element, entering into everything which is worthy to be called literature. The latent seeds of genius, in every nation, have come to life under the influence of certain circumstances which stimulate. Such an influence is required, to act like sunlight upon the cold clay of a purely industrial community, before it can be covered with the glow and fragrance of a period of intellectual bloom. Not seldom, in the past, the struggle of a war period, the alternating tension and triumph, have been found to produce this effect. Fortunately the human mind can also be made to respond to less cruel agitations. We can conceive no event, of a peaceful character, so likely to evoke the germination of the imaginative element, in this country, as an effective celebration of this fourth century of our history, now planned for the coming year. It will act on many converging lines. A motive in itself will be the awakening it will produce to the fact that Canada has a history, of such length and interest as will be called to mind. Numberless reminders of stirring times and incidents will be presented to notice. Perhaps the most potent of all influences will come from the mere common presence of so many thousands of loyal Canadians, crowding simultaneously from all the Provinces to one point, as a kind of national Mecca,