

Canadians are declining. The duty of Canadian patriots is clear. We should not leave the solution of this vital problem to the politician. The average politician lives not for country but for party, which word is synonymous with self. If these foreigners are to remain uneducated they will in coming generations be a menace to the civil and religious institutions which we are building for our posterity. If we would guard the future interests of our children we must protect these institutions by so educating these foreigners that instead of proving a weakness to our commonwealth they may be its pillars. To that end they must be assimilated, so that they may become loyal and faithful to Canadian institutions. To that end we must give them the key to these institutions, which is the English tongue. That can be given them only in our public schools.

But the present public school of Manitoba is not the ideal school. The schools which did most for the higher civilization of Scotland and through Scotchmen for the higher civilization of the world, were the parish schools of John Knox, in which the Bible was a text-book. The Bible is to-day virtually shut out of the majority of Manitoba schools by the unwise option given to school trustees.

Another very grave aspect of the school system here is, that amongst these foreigners who most urgently need the public school, very few schools exist, because there is in the Manitoba school law, no compulsory clause by which to enforce the organization of schools. But even where schools have been organized, these foreigners rarely send their children, and in the School Act, there is no clause making attendance of children compulsory. In all this colony of 9,000 Galicians, with a very high percentage of children of school age, less than twenty Galician children are attending school, which means that all the rest are at present growing up into lives of the semi-barbarism of their parents.

In those countries blessed with paternal government, the State is responsible for the education of the children of the State. Any government which not only sanctions, but encourages the immigration of foreigners should be in duty bound to