

VII. MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS

61. *General Statement.* There remain a great many matters on which much might be written, but limitations of space restrain the mention of more than a few of them.

62. *The Capital of Canada* is the City of Ottawa, in the Province of Ontario. It is the site of the Dominion Parliament Buildings, the seat of government, and the residence of the Governor-General. Each Province has its own Provincial Capital, devoted to like purposes.

63. *National Flag.* Canada has no distinctive flag of its own. It adopts the National Flag of Great Britain, which is usually called the *Union Jack*. This flag in design is a union or entwining of the crosses of St. George, St. Andrew and St. Patrick, the Patron Saints of England, Scotland and Ireland respectively, into one design in red, white and blue. There are other flags flown in Canada, but they are not official. There is no objection to the flying of other flags in Canada, provided that the Union Jack is always given the place of honour.

64. *Military Service.* In times of peace a small *Permanent Force* is maintained, and a somewhat larger force of *Militia*. Enlistment in these forces is purely voluntary. Only when needed in emergency of war are citizens liable to be called into service, and then it is the solemn duty of every citizen to rally to the aid of his country.

65. *Official Languages.* In Dominion Government matters *English* and *French* are the official languages. That is also true of the Province of Quebec. In the other Provinces, English is the only official language in Provincial matters. No other language is official in any part of Canada, but there is no objection to the people using any language in their ordinary affairs of life. The reason why Canada is bilingual in some respects has already been mentioned.

66. *Public Holidays.* The National Holiday of Canada is called *Dominion Day* (the First of July)—the day on which the British North America Act came into effect in 1867, thus creating the Dominion of Canada. There are several others, but they are not all distinctly national in character. Each Province officially observes Dominion holidays and a few of its own.

67. *Religion.* In Canada no religion is either enforced or prohibited; all religions are respected. No person is compelled to attend any church service, nor to support any church establishment. At the same time all Canadians are encouraged to profess and practice some form of religion.

68. *Women's Rights.* In Canada women have almost equal rights with men in civil and political matters. They may hold property in their own names, conduct trade and business, and engage in professions. They may sue and be sued in Courts of Law. In nearly all Provinces they have the right to vote at Dominion, Provincial and Municipal elections, to be elected to political office, and to hold political appointments.

69. *Rights of Children.* Protection is afforded children by law against abuse and excessive hardship. They are required to attend school during school age, and are excluded from injurious employment. Their moral delinquencies are brought under the eye of the law.