

ing in Halifax it was felt that more should be done to keep clear of the impression that has given rise to so much unrest in many of our provincial associations over the *personnel* of the Executive — a very secondary thing in itself as long as the affairs of the Association are carefully attended to. As President Mackay said, in reply to Mr. McLean, of St. John, and Mr. Robertson, of St. Catharines, the Executive and its constitution is but the least of the matters with which the Association has to do, and yet, since many make so much of the election of the members of the Executive, and seem to pass their whole time during the convention in formulating their pre-arrangements, it can do no harm to place the function of management in the hands of the Association as far as this can be done without serious loss of time during the convention. With the widest representation possible, and a freedom of action in the management of the affairs of the Association by the teachers themselves, it will, it is thought, add to its prestige, and give its deliberations all the emphasis necessary.

Another of the resolutions passed may be looked upon as an expression of the loyalty and patriotism of those present. The initiative of having an "Empire Day" as a school holiday was taken by the Hon. Dr. Ross, of Ontario, in a paper which was read in his absence. That paper included suggestions for a day to be observed all over Canada for the purpose of developing a higher manhood and a broader citizenship, patriotism and loyalty. In detail he said:

I desire to indicate my strong preference for "Empire Day" as the title by which a patriotic day for the schools of Canada should be known.

(1) "Empire Day" suggests that larger British sentiment which I think now prevails throughout the empire, and to which Canada has for many

years contributed not a little. The proudest sentiment which the old Roman could express was *Civis Romanus sum*. The greatest sentiment as well as the most stirring which we could put into the minds and hearts of our children, in my opinion, is *Civis Britannicus sum*, and, to give that sentiment its fullest force, we should broaden it so as to include the whole British Empire.

(2) Whatever may be the destiny of Canada, and that is for posterity to say, rather than for us just now, I am convinced that, viewing the situation in the light of to-day, Canada's prosperity can with greater certainty be assured as a part of the British Empire than in any other way. If circumstances require this opinion to be reversed as generations come and go (and no one can tell what the future has in store for any nation), then let our successors govern themselves accordingly. Let us be governed by the conditions with which we are confronted.

As to the time most convenient for the celebration of such a day, from suggestions received and from a careful consideration of the whole question, I would respectfully advise that the school day immediately preceding the 24th of May be the day selected. This form of designating the day would overcome any difficulty that might arise when the 24th of May fell on Sunday or Monday. The 24th of May is a statutory holiday and the schools are consequently closed. It is a day which all British subjects celebrate in a spirit of the deepest respect for Her Gracious Majesty for her pre-eminence as "wife, mother and Queen," and of profoundest loyalty to their country because of the privileges which as citizens they enjoy. If the school day immediately preceding the 24th of May is set apart as "Empire Day" the exercises which may be designed for the afternoon of that day will have