

ther. That difficulty, of course, accompanied them into later life, to their great disadvantage." Our national character, he thought, had something to do with it. "The reserve and slowness of speech which characterized not a few English people were qualities which were received with great tolerance in our school system of education. Be that as it may, there could be no doubt that there were other countries

which taught their mother tongue very much better than we did our own. He understood that in France, in Germany, in Holland, and in the United States the habit of oral recapitulation was more used in teaching than it was in England, the result being that the people acquired a habit of prompt and coherent statement, as well as the power of logical narrative."

### CORRESPONDENCE.

*To the Editor of the Educational Times.*

SIR,—The Canadian Government is very desirous of encouraging the study of the history, geography and resources of Canada in the schools of the United Kingdom; and, with this object in view, has had prepared two books for use in schools—one an atlas, and the other a reader about Canada. Copies are enclosed herewith.

The books will be supplied in sufficient numbers to schools prepared to take the matter up after the summer holidays. The offer will be confined, in the first place, to schools in the rural districts and in the smaller towns and villages—the centres of agricultural neighborhoods.

It is intended to present a bronze medal for competition in each school. The medal will be given to the boy or girl who proves to be the most proficient in the subjects when the schools close for the Christmas holidays. An examination should be held about the time specified, and the best two papers in each school forwarded to me, when I shall decide, as soon as possible after they are received, to which of the papers the medal is to be awarded.

The adoption of the proposal can-

not fail to be of advantage from an Imperial as well as from a Canadian point of view, and nothing but good results can follow a better knowledge of Canada among the rising generation. Both directly and indirectly it ought to be beneficial in a commercial sense in making the products of Canada better known than at present; and, again, the more the rising generation know about Canada and the colonies the more likely are those of them who may decide upon emigration in the future to remain within the limits of the Empire.

I shall be glad to hear from schoolmasters who view the suggestion favorably, and will furnish them with atlases and readers on learning the numbers required and the date on which they will be needed. The applications will be recorded in order of priority, and will be dealt with on the lines mentioned until the available supply of the books is exhausted.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

STRATHCONA.

Office of the High Commissioner for Canada, 17 Victoria street, London, S.W.