

text, "Without a school, a people perish." It is true at least that without a school to stand for its distinctive ideals and beliefs, a denomination is doomed to an existence so ineffective as to be little better than extinction.

One of the greatest problems facing our Baptist leaders in Canada is surely that of the solidarity of the denomination. Surely in no other land is the task of quite the same nature—a long line of churches stretching 3,700 miles from Halifax to Victoria, with points of strength at such places as Wolfville, Toronto, Winnipeg, Calgary and Vancouver, and in others such as Saskatchewan and Quebec, terribly thin or actually non-existent. In places where churches are few, faith in the necessity of our Baptist witness and contribution to the nation's life is apt to be dimmed and the denominational morale weakened. It is doubtful whether any ready-made panacea can be discovered, but our people's belief in their destiny must not be allowed to falter, and above all, each one of our churches must never be allowed to subside into a narrowed outlook, where it is interested only in its own affairs. I believe that a good healthy foreign missionary enthusiasm cannot be beaten as a unifying force for all our churches from ocean to ocean, and from the largest centre to the loneliest outpost.

And the problems of our churches are, in a great degree, the problems of Canada as a whole. The anomalous system of separate schools, especially in the West, is every year making dimmer and still more dim the hope of a united Canada. If some malignant enemy of Canada were to devise a strategem to divide and weaken the state, I doubt if he could think of one more suited to his fell purpose than to have a great part of the incoming foreigners herded into schools whose object was to instil into such pupils the idea that their ultimate allegiance was to an ultramontane power, whose success would mean the loss or prostitution of these free institutions on which the happiness of Canadians is founded. And what shall we

say to the prohibition slump in some quarters? I was assured in Edmonton that Alberta will be back in the prohibition column in two years. Well, we shall see, for these things are known in India, and take a lot of explaining. And if meanwhile we can help the temperance cause anywhere pray command us!

My most abiding impression of our Baptist churches is, as has always been true, that they have in them potentialities, possibilities of spiritual power and victory that are simply boundless. Never call a Baptist church dead! Look at Sherbrooke! Look at Point St. Charles, my own splendid backers! And at this time, when God is so unmistakably calling his people to rise and follow him in the great advance, how we covet for our Canadian Baptists the proud honor of being the leaders and line officers in the great fight and in the victory; that they shall first hear and answer the call; that they shall first see the cloud taken up, and shall first forsake all and follow him. "And when the cloud was taken up from over the tabernacle, the children of Israel journeyed"—Num. 9:17. God grant us the faith to see the lifted cloud, and to follow it.

"On, to the bound of the waste.

On, to the city of God!"

—Western Baptist.

#### FROM DR. D'PRAZER

Canadian Pacific  
Steamship "Marloch",

May 10, 1924.

Very Dear Friends:—

I know you would like to hear how we are getting on and what has happened since we left you in Toronto, after completing our Eastern and Western campaign.

You must have heard of the Hamilton and London meetings from some of your members who were present, and Mr. Matthews who presided over the Hamilton meeting will have told you what a successful meeting we had there. London ran very close to that.