

## CONTEMPORARY VIEWS AND REVIEWS

### Community Self-Interest

Community self-interest is not a bad definition for altruism, when one comes to think it out. The force of this was evidently impressed upon those present at the dinner tendered by the president and executive of the Winnipeg City Planning Commission to the members of that body and its committees. President Sanford Evans and Chairman William Pearson of the executive committee—together with other speakers—urged the formation of a permanent Winnipeg Housing and City Planning Association on a voluntary and popular basis, to be affiliated with the National Association launched at the suggestion of H. R. H. the Duke of Connaught when in Winnipeg some months ago. A committee was duly appointed and organization will doubtless proceed apace. The object of such local association will be to focalize public sentiment for civic betterment so far as it already exists—and to create such sentiment where it is as yet lacking.

It is hoped that the city council will now follow up the good beginning made by its temporarily constituted Commission (whose report it has before it) and permanently appoint an expert for city-planning work. That Edmonton, Calgary and Regina have already made such appointments is evidence of this phase of community self-interest taking hold in Western Canada. The Civic Centre suggestion contained in the Commission report was strengthened by the "postprandial promise" of the Provincial Minister of Public Works—to wit, that the government would place the new legislative buildings in a position conforming to the plan proposed.

But considerations of externals—whether utilitarian or esthetic—did not hold sway during this notable evening. There was recognition that it is not enough to have "heaps of bricks piled up as a kind of monument to show where heaps of money have been piled up before." William Pearson—speaking as head of the Housing Committee, with a manly earnestness that will not soon be forgotten—impressed upon his hearers that conditions making for the health and welfare of the less well-to-do must be a first consideration in city-planning for the future. Even apart from altruistic motives, the community must needs see to it that general healthfulness and prosperity are not jeopardized by slum conditions—Canadian Finance, Winnipeg.

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### "The Power of the Home Joy"

"Farmer's" Magazine for February (Maclean Publishing Company) is a publication which should be of interest to all other citizens as much as to "Farmers." The article by E. C. Drury, B.S.A., on "How Canada May Help England," ("Britain," may we respectfully suggest), deserves the widest attention.

To the same number Dr. O. S. Marden contributes an equally attractive article, and one not less concerned with nation-building, entitled "The Power of the Home Joy."