

# The Making of Citizens

Citizen Opinion as to How Training In Citizenship Might  
Be Made More Effective:  
Through the Home.

"Teach children that 'civility' does not mean 'servility.' Strict obedience should also be taught. Outside of the teaching of honesty and truthfulness, there are, to my mind, no things better that can be taught the youth to help him in making a good and desirable citizen than obedience and civility."

"Education of any kind naturally starts at home, and it is to the home and its surroundings that we must look if decent citizens are to be obtained. The growing boy and girl in our city is, in the majority of cases, brought up to look upon the Mayor and Council as a collection of incompetents and possible grafters. . . . Fathers and mothers must be forced to take a greater interest in municipal affairs and obtain a true viewpoint of the personal worth of their representatives, if this condition is to be remedied."

"Informed citizenship, by educating one's self as to municipal and national life and government, should make public life clean, free from graft and corruption."

"Cultivate at home and at school, by teaching, by example,—a feeling of local pride and patriotism not sectional or sectarian, but general—so that every child will know that he and she can do much to improve and assist the community."

## Through the School.

"Are not the children being put through school in the same way as a flock of sheep would be washed? Can a system be introduced by which the character of a child, its disposition, peculiarities and ability will be noted as it passes up from one grade to another? Would this give a child some self-consciousness and produce better results?"

"A sound, well nourished, erect body is fundamental, else much effort may be wasted. . . . Would urge more attention to health of child."

"Put male teachers of high ideals in our schools who can set an example of manliness to boys."

"To improve education in citizenship, co-operate with the teachers of History in the Toronto High Schools and Collegiate Institutes. The subject of Civics and Elementary Economics should receive more attention than it does."

"The average child leaves school with almost no knowledge of how his home city is governed, and by whom. . . . Would it not be possible to arrange for the alder-

men of the various wards to visit the schools at certain times during their tenure of office and thus become known to the rising generation of voters?"

"Short talks on 'How Our City is Governed' should be given the senior scholars, by men and women who are not teachers, but who are actively engaged in some phase of municipal work."

"The great value of the Technical Schools should be emphasized and they should be made even more attractive."

"There can be no true, loyal citizenship apart from Bible teaching. Bible teaching should have a definite place in the school, also in teachers' examinations."

"All children born under the protection of the British flag should be classed as British subjects and taught in national schools, under the management of a Commission, the duties of citizenship, and the system of municipal and state government, independent of any sect or creed."

"Insist on obedience to constituted authority. As there is such a lamentable lack of discipline in home training, it should be given in the schools—military training for all boys of between 16 and 20 years of age, also a modified form of military training for girls."

"Would teach children in school to co-operate with householders in making this a 'city beautiful.' Destruction of flowers, lawns, fences, etc., should be considered a serious offence."

"A school farm where pupils might be taken as students, not sent as prisoners, would mean the salvation of many misguided lads who finish their careers in bank-robbery."

## Through the Community at Large.

"Every facility and encouragement should be given to public discussion through the establishment of community centres or otherwise. Addresses on Citizenship should be delivered and instruction classes for those applying for citizenship papers should be organized."

"Proper and adequate areas must be supplied for outdoor sports, where citizens may mix. For instance, North Toronto in many square miles has no ball grounds. Buildings for clubs to keep boys off the streets ought to be built and properly supervised."

"If the alien (enemy or otherwise) is to continue in our midst, as he likely will, I would suggest the adoption of a very definite plan of compulsory education for him, whether he is young or old, in English and in the manners, customs and institutions of our country."

Would closer co-operation between the home and school make for the advancement of both agencies?

Could this be accomplished by greater use of our schools as community centres and an extension of the work being done at present by the Home and School Leagues?—Bureau of Municipal Research, Toronto.

## Municipal Statistics in Quebec—Continued.

When all the reports have come in, they are compiled in a definite order. The county municipalities are arranged alphabetically and the local municipalities forming part of a county municipality are also in alphabetical order, one after the other. At the end of each chapter or table, the totals per counties are grouped together and the statistics of cities and towns, independent of county municipalities, are also summed up alphabetically in order to recapitulate the previous pages. All these additions are proved with the Burrough's Adding Machine.

If a report happens to be missing at the last moment, we then reproduce the one of the last year for which it was given.

According to the Quebec Municipal Law, the "Municipal Statistics Report must be presented to the Legislature within fifteen days from the opening of the annual session. I should prefer their being published at an earlier date, July for instance, in the "Official Gazette," so as to give as promptly as possible the information asked for by many people, especially regarding the financial position of municipalities.

These statistics are afterwards distributed to all municipalities so that they may better see, every year, how they stand and be compelled to reflect upon their position. They may also realize that by paying more attention to their bookkeeping and statistics; by publishing accurate reports on the state of their finances and on their development, not only do they clearly show the cost of the various municipal services, but they also interest the enlightened public in their affairs, and, by having better credit, they will develop more easily and also victoriously and peacefully fulfil their destiny.

## THE BONUS EVIL AND ITS EFFECTS.

Of the resolutions adopted by the Union of Canadian Municipalities at its annual meeting in Kingston none is worthy of more attention than the resolution against the subsidizing of local industries by means of bonuses, grants of free sites, or exemption from taxation. The Provincial Governments are to be asked to enact legislation preventing this wasteful competition among municipalities. Few ambitious urban municipalities can plead innocence in this matter. Hamilton is one of many which have sacrificed too much for the sake of industrial expansion. High tax rates form one unpleasant effect of the bonusing abuse.

There is a law on the Ontario statute book designed to check the industrial bonus evil, but it is commonly evaded, and when municipalities violate it they do not find it hard to get the Legislature to legalize their violations of it. A stop should be put to this practice. If the law were impartially enforced and no exceptions made, there would be less temptation on the part of municipal councils to offer bribes to industrial promoters to open plants in towns willing to pay for them.

Unhappily, it too often happens that the manufacturers who have to be subsidized to locate in a place must eventually be further subsidized to prevent them removing later to some town which holds out better inducements.—The Hamilton Herald.