

So I drafted a short peroration and I feel I should inflict that too upon you. Here it is.

My colleagues and I are convinced that these proposals will contribute to the filling of a gap in our national way of life and will help to solve "Canada's crisis in higher education".

I have already indicated that in our view our cultural progress has lagged behind our industrial development. We are not, however, the only country to suffer from that imbalance. The French philosopher Henri Bergson, in 1932, noted the same disequilibrium throughout the whole world and I think some lines of his analysis are worth quoting:

"In endowing us with an intelligence that is fundamentally inventive, Nature had really prepared us for an extension of our capacities. But machines run by oil, coal and electricity, converting into motion potential energy accumulated over millions of years, have given to our area an extension so vast and a power so formidable, so disproportionate to its size and strength, that surely nothing of this kind had been provided for in the structure of our species.... Now, in this body that has grown out of proportion, the soul remains what it was, too small now to fill the body, too feeble to control it. Hence the gap between them; hence the formidable problems in the social, political and international spheres, problems which are many manifestations of that gap and which give rise today to so many disorganized and ineffectual efforts at solutions... The overgrown body awaits an extension of the soul."

I think you will agree that indeed, the world today needs abundant sources of intellectual and moral energies. Canada wants to be one of those sources, and it has already begun to be one of those sources in several international organizations. With that purpose in mind, we must further develop and enrich our own national soul; we must achieve in our country that broader outlook and that deeper insight into the things of the mind which will enable us better to deal with the problems of the present. And that requires us to take into account the experiences - yes even the mistakes - of the past generations since the beginning of man's social development. We must acquire a better appreciation of the dazzling possibilities for future generations when the practice of the fundamental principle of good human relations, "love thy neighbour as thyself" will be regarded not only as a command to be obeyed but rather as a privilege to be enjoyed and to be treasured beyond the importance attached to the possession and control of mere material things, however useful those things may be to satisfy the needs of the material side of our human nature. If we diligently seek the development of the nobler side of our human nature, may we not hope, like he who really seeks the kingdom of his Sovereign Lord and His justice, that all those material things shall be added unto us.

RP/A