

Morals Will Improve.

Nor is it claimed in this argument that the governments are free from censure or that administration in the past under Government direction has been everything that could be desired, but the only answer to this is that we must face the problem of securing greater efficiency in our methods. Unless we can do this we must decide that Democracy is a failure but it takes no great optimist to believe that improvement in this regard is inevitable. The history of any country in its earlier stages of development is almost invariably a story of political corruption. The Indian Civil Service which is today the admiration of the world for the probity and sincerity of the men who are directing it, was apparently not so free from censure in the early days of the East India Company. The history of railroad building in England and of the old turnpike roads in that country reveals the fact that political corruption was in evidence in almost every transaction. American railroad history tells the same story of colossal fortunes built at the expense of the country, and the Dominion of Canada has several rather black chapters in the history of railroad development. There are only two restraints which hold in check the tendency of humanity to wander from the straight and narrow path. These are the moral restraint and the fear of bankruptcy. The moral restraints are broken down by the lack of social control in a new country and the sudden development of