

impasse. The final issue depends upon our conduct in the immediate future. We have taken the twentieth century for our own, and we are beginning to learn that all centuries are pretty much alike, and are not so easily manageable as we, in our raw youth and inexperience, had supposed them to be.

Snugly ensconced against the north pole with the sun streaming down upon us on four sides, we forgot that it was merely the summer time, and that a long winter was bound to follow. Our century lasted only so long as the fugitive sun remained with us. With a naïve complacency we came out into the world. We are beginning to discover how complicated a concern the world really is, how cold and unsympathetic towards the enthusiastic ignorance of youth. We never suspected, in our ambition to keep out one race of immigrants and bring in another, for example, that Japan and Austria might have entirely other views, although any farmer could have told us that it is a dangerous practice, tramping round in another man's wheatfield. It is the part of wisdom to be tolerant of the failures of the young, and the world is very wise; but it is interested to discover in what manner of spirit we shall approach the difficulties in which we have involved ourselves.

We have been too much concerned about creating in the world an opinion of ourselves by a process of advertising. An advertisement works both ways, and it is hard to know what kind of opinion is being created. Our immigration literature has become an object of derision. A Canadian minister touring Europe with his retinue needs to be very wise if he would escape ridicule abroad and criticism at home, since comparatively few persons in Europe understand the difference between North America and South America, and they have long since been familiar with American potentates. All advertising is eventually harmful, unless it can be clearly shown that the advertiser is in possession of the goods.

Concerned overmuch with our exploits abroad we have neglected the business which lies next to our hands. The municipal service in our cities has broken down. We have