

was taken through our Association in the question of "Higher Education."

The Association's influence has been largely instrumental in creating a greater interest in industrial life in our universities. The School of Practical Science in Toronto is now an integral part of Toronto University, and constitutes the faculty of applied science. The liberal appropriation of the Ontario Government towards the enlargement of the School of Practical Science, and the laudable efforts of the Minister of Education of the Province of Ontario in technical education give evidence of the public interest in more practical education. Manual Training Schools are being located at different points, owing to the practical liberality of Sir William C. McDonald, of Montreal, a member of this Association.

It is technical and commercial education that has placed Germany in the position of a dangerous rival to Great Britain, and there is need for energetic action to face the keen and growing competition of industrial countries, such as Germany and the United States, countries which have given attention to practical, as well as theoretical education.

One proof that our people are eager for a more scientific knowledge of their special trades is that there are 25,000 Canadians receiving instruction by mail through the United States National Correspondence Schools. This indicates that our artisans feel the need of a more practical education.

Capable, well trained men, are as important in business as in professional life. The great majority of students in the past have gone into the so-called learned professions, but, if I can read the tendency of the times aright, a much greater proportion will enter commercial life in the future. Why should not the student, if he chooses, instead of confining himself to theories and economic conditions of days long past, devote himself to the study and solving of the great vital problems of our own time and country? Modern conditions are such that men must be trained to handle large matters, and select the raw and file to

attend to smaller details. They must be able to organize, arrange the division of labor, grasp and understand opportunities, and nowhere should the liberal and broadening tendencies of our industrial life be better assisted than in the colleges of our Dominion.

The field of industry will never be fully occupied, but will always offer rewards to the right kind of ability.

It is true our country presents great natural advantages, but, without the inventive skill and its intelligent application, backed up by enterprise and energy, we shall fall in the scale of nations, for the survival of the fittest is a law which never changes.

#### SKILLED ACCOUNTING.

I wish to emphasize the importance to our manufacturers of having skilled accountants. In our offices we are accustomed to obtain the best help available to keep our accounts, regulate our credits, and attend to our banking: though often—too often—this help is not as skilled and as highly trained as it should be: but, in the factory, where we deal with materials, time, machinery, waste and wear and tear, all representing money, the same regard for skilled help as a rule is not observed, and indeed the services of skilled accountants, capable of following all these items accurately, and of formulating reliable cost accounts, are difficult to obtain. In these days of keen competition it is highly important that the manufacturer should know, to the fraction of a cent, the cost of his goods.

#### TRADE AND NAVIGATION RETURNS.

At the same time we have given close attention to the securing of reliable information for our members upon the progress of trade in which they are interested. Through representations made to the Government by our Association, it was decided to issue a monthly trade and navigation report, classifying the exports and imports under some 1,400 headings. The reports are issued