

without exception have been men who have amassed wealth in business pursuits, and let me ask, why have one and all overlooked the interest of education in commercial branches?

I would arraign the educational institutions of Canada for neglecting an all-important branch of education. I admit the exertion of every effort and energy towards education for the professions—law, medicine, science, and others, as well as theology. Why is it that there is no practical training school for commerce. The merchants, bankers, and manufacturers of to-day, are, with few exceptions, men of more or less limited education—self-taught for the most part. Expert and able as those in the higher walks of commerce may be—it is not difficult to ascertain that their education has been obtained in the office; in the counting room; in the workshop, warehouse or salesroom. Let me ask why so many years of young life should be expended in tedious observation and practice of menial duty perhaps to the neglect of the improvement of mind? Why this loss of the chance of a wider range of education that every business man lives to regret, in after life? Men can, and do make money without education. Natural ability or fitness leads many to success, but once that goal reached, can you count in thousands those who, upon one occasion or other live to feel the absence of that of which they were deprived in early life through the lack of a proper provision in our educational system? Early preparation for commercial life which would train, cultivate and refine the mind. The higher institutions of learning do not, it must be admitted, fit young men for business life. The very nature of the years of study