

the council and its officers should be held to strict account for this delay. In the words of the King in Henry IV., we close for the present—

Worcester get thee gone; for I do see  
Danger and disobedience in thine eye:  
O, sir, your presence is too bold and peremptory,  
And majesty might never yet endure  
The moody frontier of a servant brow.  
You have good leave to leave us: when we need  
Your use and Counsel, we shall send for thee.

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### MEDICAL INSPECTION OF SCHOOLS.

The time has gone for the argument of this question, and the time has come for acting upon the knowledge we have. It is quite apparent that the medical inspection of schools cannot be introduced in rural districts, nor is there much need that such should be done. It is quite true on the other hand that in all the larger centres of population there ought to be medical inspection of schools.

In Germany, Britain, the United States, and France, where medical inspection of schools has been put in operation, it has been shown that very many children are attending school with physical defects or diseases that should be under the care of a physician, surgeon, or dentist. The percentage of children so suffering has proven to be alarmingly large in many of the cities. These cases can be followed up and much done to make men and women out of those that, if neglected, would become cripples for life or drift into ill health and go to an early grave. The people of a country are its most valuable asset.

According to the value put on life by the students of this subject in Britain, and adopted by the American committee of one hundred, each person on an average is worth a little more than \$1,700. In Canada, with a population of about 7,500,000, this would give a national wealth in human life of the very large sum of twelve billions seven hundred and fifty millions of dollars. It is when human life is thrown into the form of figures that one grasps how very important it is.

But much loss of time and suffering would be avoided by medical inspection. This is a source at present of an enormous amount of waste. In this way medical inspection of schools is a means of vastly conserving the resources of any community. We talk a great deal about race suicide but we go to sleep over the subject of conserving the life and health of those that are born. We cry out for immigration to this country and hope to see it become a populous country, but we give but little attention