

The Carleton School for Girls
152 Argyle Avenue
Ottawa, March 13th, 1924

Major-General

Sir A. W. Currie, G.C.M.G., K.C.B., LL.D
McGill University
Montreal, P.Q.

Sir:

Miss Wadsworth, the teacher of history, having drawn my attention to the new text-book prescribed by McGill University for matriculation work, - "World Progress", by Willis Mason West, sometime Professor in the University of Minnesota, - I have taken time to look through it. Though not possessing the social prestige and superior attainments which justify a protest, or the honour of a personal acquaintance which would excuse encroachment upon your valuable time, I venture to bring to your notice several characteristics of this history.

(1) While I am aware that kings, queens and potentates are, in the present fashion of writing, absolutely out-of-date, it seems regrettable that heroes are among the exiles from polite history. In this instance Wellington and Nelson are mere names, dismissed with a stroke of the pen. Our British troops of 1914-18 and their comrades are treated with no greater respect. Boys and girls of fifteen and sixteen have not a sufficient background of detailed information to be able to fill in the gaps for themselves; for bread they will receive stones; heroes they must look for in the "movies".

(2) On page 601 there is the statement: - "Modern Civilization is based upon industrialism". For those whose fund of general information is limited, whose judgment is crude, and whose ideals are just being formed, this is decidedly misleading.