

SONALS. (Nov. 22.) St. John to Inspector, business, Mrs. ...

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THE GROWTH OF CANADA AND A STUDY OF THE SMALL TOWN PROBLEM

(Montreal Standard.) The problem of making life in our smaller Canadian towns and cities more attractive is quite as important as that of making brighter and more pleasant the conditions of life on farms.

According to Max Nordau "there is no doubt that degeneration has its chief home in the large towns and that the population of the large towns is condemned as a whole to degeneration."

It is that, the life of the nation depends upon the small towns and purely rural communities, and since the Eastern provinces of Canada at any rate, we cannot very well have a prosperous agricultural population without numerous thriving small towns.

Very little attention has been given to the small town problem, either in its industrial, social or national aspects; information that might warrant hard and fast conclusions is lacking, and probably there are some phases of the problem which each town must solve for itself.

Small Town Industries. Numerous small local industries offer a considerable variety of employment to the people at home, and attract immigrants.

Technical Education. As a result of their handicaps, attention has been directed to the need of technical education of immigration and of co-operative credit societies such as they have in the small towns and villages of Germany and other countries.

Relief on Their Own Exertions. Generally speaking the small towns have had to rely on their own devices and resources in working out their economic salvation.

Other Considerations. And there are other considerations which point to a higher future for the small town. Owing largely to the forced draft of high protection, the industrial development of Canada has not been well proportioned.

Suppose the manufacture of shoes involves one hundred operations, performed by one hundred men. Then a plant employing one hundred men reaches the limit of manufacturing efficiency—that is if the operations are

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