

This viewpoint comes to the surface from time to time, and is unfortunately made use of in some quarters to maintain ill-will between French and English Canada. It was not openly referred to at the National Conference on Character Education in Relation to Canadian Citizenship, held in Winnipeg last October, but it is a notable fact that not a French Canadian name is to be found among those constituting the executive committee. In opening the second session of the conference on October 20th, the chairman, Hon. Dr. Thornton, who is minister of education in Manitoba, said: "This conference comes at a psychological moment. As we address ourselves to the problems of peace this national consciousness may be emphasized and directed to educational matters. No single factor is destined to affect national thought so much as our common schools. Let us think and speak of Canadian schools. In Manitoba let us speak and think not of Manitoba schools, but of Canadian schools in Manitoba. In Ontario, of Canadian schools in Ontario. In Quebec, of Canadian schools in Quebec, and so of the other provinces." Mr. Thornton was speaking in a broad way and was not discussing concrete problems of school administration, but his remark was not in accordance with a liberal minded policy which has been found to be the most successful and the most desirable for this country.

Professor Carrie Derick, of Montreal, vice-president of the National Council of Women, was not entirely consistent. She remarked at one point: "I look forward, to compulsory education throughout the Dominion on a much higher standard than anything we have now; I shall never be satisfied until every boy and girl in Canada is going to school until 18 years of age." Later, she said, in referring to the work of the school in moulding character, "This character does not need to be the same; the methods do not need to be the same; the teachers do not need to be the same; the greater diversity the greater richness in our life. Diversity does not make for disintegration. Diversity, combined with tolerance, is the one best rule for liberty and unity."

OUR FORTUNE IN PULP AND PAPER

FREQUENT references made by the imperial press delegates to their newsprint difficulties emphasize the fact that a shortage in this product, as understood abroad, is unknown in Canada. Sir Campbell Stuart, who represented the Northcliffe papers, stated in Toronto that one thing with which Canadian papers impressed him was their size. The output of newspapers and periodicals in this country is, in fact, very large in proportion to the population, and the cause is not an extraordinary demand for publications, but the remarkable supply of paper at comparatively low prices. Paper, however, is merely one illustration of the value of Canadian forests. These forests contribute upwards of \$200,000,000 per year to the trade of Canada. They play an important part in our external commerce. They are a source of inestimable national wealth. Under proper management and control they can be made to contribute to the national wealth of the country indefinitely. Without such management and control they are doomed to diminish rapidly, and, within a comparatively few years, to become entirely extinct.

Proper forest control includes the enforcement of sensible cutting regulations under official superintendence, as well as adequate provision for a continuity of wood supply. The last is the more important. These can only be obtained through intelligent action on the part of the legislatures of the several provinces and through faithful administration by the governmental authorities. The means for adequate forest perpetuation must necessarily be supplied at public expense out of the revenues derived from the sale and utilization of the forest resources.

Public enlightenment on the subject is the first essential. The newspapers of Canada, in addition to the national interest involved, have a direct personal concern in the subject. Their raw material is dependent upon the continued and uninterrupted supply of pulpwood. The present high price

of paper is due primarily to the high price of wood. To-day's paper prices, onerous as they may appear to the newspaper publishers, will fade into insignificance compared with what the future prices will be if Canada's pulpwood forests are allowed to be consumed indiscriminately and without provision for their replacement.

MORTALITY EXPERIENCE NOW FAVORABLE

HEALTH conditions are now excellent, according to reports from life insurance companies and from companies insuring against sickness. The Metropolitan Life Insurance Company states that the death rate among its industrial policyholders was 9.59 per 1,000 in June, compared with 9.28, both rates being comparatively low. Increases took place in the case of tuberculosis, and for external causes, especially automobile accidents. These increases were almost entirely offset, however, by pronounced declines in the mortality from influenza, pneumonia and other respiratory diseases. Public attention is now focused upon fatal automobile accidents. No less than 132 deaths from automobile accidents were recorded among Metropolitan industrial policyholders in June. This is an increase of 37 deaths, or 39 per cent., over the month of May. Automobile accidents are as important causes of death as are typhoid fever and scarlet fever combined.

Health conditions in the population at large were also very favorable during the month of June. The death rate in 49 of the leading cities of the United States for the month was 11.8 as compared with 13.8 for May and 14.8 per 1,000 for April. It appears that measles and malaria are now very prevalent, although not important factors in causing death. A serious outbreak of smallpox was reported from Texas in the beginning of June. Indiana and Kansas also reported many cases. The incidence of whooping-cough is generally declining, although a large number of cases were reported from Kansas, Massachusetts and Detroit. A number of cases of bubonic plague had been definitely reported from a number of centres on the Gulf, including Florida, Louisiana and Texas. In foreign countries it is important to observe that malaria has been made a notifiable disease in England as well as in Scotland, where large numbers of cases prevail because of the return of many infected soldiers. There has also been considerable smallpox in Scotland in recent weeks. Since June 8th all ports of Cuba, except Havana, have been closed against arrivals from Vera Cruz.

"Life insurance protects business and investments; it always matures; it never fails; it does not fluctuate; it creates an estate immediately; it does away with worry; it is necessary; it lengthens life; it solves all problems; it has saved many from ruin." These extracts, taken from an essay submitted to the Northwestern Life in a children's contest, may over-rate the value of life insurance, but they are at least true in many cases.

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Canada, by reason of its relation to the United States as regards newsprint supply, has the power to force that country back, "so far as the printed word is concerned, almost to the dark ages," says a writer in the "Wall Street Journal." The United States also, through its control of the coal supply of the central provinces, could force them back to the age before artificial heat was discovered.

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Dealers in foreign exchange report a large speculative demand in Canada. One firm, the A. Cordasco Steamship Agencies, of Montreal, reports that over 3,250,000 marks were traded in by their clients during the past few months. The rise in marks from .018 to .04 resulted in profits of over 100 per cent. French and Belgian francs, Italian lire and Roumanian leis are also in demand.