

ple of Troezen levied school rates for the teaching of the children of the Athenians when the advance of Xerxes drove the latter from their homes. Out of such a spirit sprang Aeschylus and the Parthenon. We too need Parthenons and prophets, poets and statesmen.

What then is the prospect for higher education in the West? On the whole it is hopeful. We cannot but be optimists. But not by hazard or chance will conditions be improved. Earnest striving is the condition of all progress. The chief question is will higher education anticipate the demand or will it begin a losing battle? Two things are needed, firstly a stronger public opinion which can only come from those who have enjoyed the benefits of higher education. The churches are absorbed in the gigantic task of coping with the Home Mission problem. They should none the less be awake to the importance of this problem. There are in the professional walks of life now many graduates of eastern Universities. On them lies a responsibility. Secondly, a few great personalities are needed. Somebody has said that the value of a great man is his ability to give an added value to the whole human race. Let us have a few such personalities and our problem will find a solution.

To all this the average Westerner would reply, "Don't get excited; we are developing our material resources. The spiritual needs must wait." The most superficial observer will have to admit that in the United States the material has quite outstripped the spiritual development. Nay, the spiritual machinery which in many respects is magnificent, is less and

less able to cope with the situation, this too in spite of the fact that higher education has always been regarded as of primal importance. It is true that no nation ever had a bigger problem to solve than the United States. It is just as true that Canada is facing a similar situation. Woe to her if she profit not by the lessons of her neighbor.

There is a danger that we should be absorbed in self-contemplation and forget the great national problems which have a direct bearing upon us. There is as yet in Canada all too little of a national sentiment, all patriotic speeches to the contrary.

One of the very striking features of Canadian life is the isolation of the various component parts of the Dominion. The nation is yet in the making and the only link which binds Western Canada to the East is the iron horse. The Maritime Provinces in spite of being much closer geographically are, if anything, more isolated since the tide of travel is westward not eastward. While we people of Ontario are occupied with our political scandals or congratulating ourselves on our own prosperity, the forces which shall determine the future of the nation are working silently.

If there is one thing which strikes one forcibly on reading the biography of Principal Grant, it is the burning patriotism of the man, his true national feeling. His work at Queen's was just a means to an end, the development of noble ideals in the nation. As such a prophet he may in future be known more than as Principal of Queen's. Of such prophets there are all too few.

Western Canada will in a large