

The Cadet Movement In Schools.

Mr. James L. Hughes, Inspector of Toronto Public Schools.—I believe that the surest and simplest and most effective way of accomplishing the purposes of this League is to develop a spirit and a power among the boys and girls of our country. I am not going to speak of the girls to-day; but I am glad that we have ladies on our executive committee. We all know that the women of our country have duties to perform during the time of war, and I believe they ought to be trained to perform those duties. But I am going to speak chiefly about the boys and tell you why I believe cadet work should be introduced into all the schools of our Dominion. I am glad the movement is progressing. We have had it in Toronto for 35 years, and every boy takes his part in drill at a certain age, just as he takes any other subject, unless, of course, he is physically unfit to do the work. We introduced another thing into Toronto, and I was reminded of it by the last remark of the President. For thirty years the boys and girls of Toronto, during the week before the King's birthday, have made a Union Jack. They make it with the colors in proper form and in proportion, so that they know the meaning of the three crosses, and understand that it represents the ideals of British liberty presented to the human race.

Two Broad Reasons.

There are two great broad reasons why boys should have physical and military drill in schools. The first is a patriotic reason. I agree with the President that patriotism is one of the strongest moral elements of character. Every boy should know that he has a country in the same sense that he knows he has a home. He should have a broader vision than many boys have now, and know what it means to have a share in a country like Canada. And I do not think there is any better way of dealing with the boys, particularly those who come from foreign countries, and getting them to understand that the Union Jack is their flag and that it is an honor to live under that flag, than by having them march in the Canadian or British uniform, behind the British flag, listening

to British music and keeping step to that music. When Prince Arthur was with us two years ago we showed him an entire company consisting of Jewish citizens, every boy having been born in Europe, and every boy with his head up, lifting his feet higher than he had ever lifted them before, because he listened to the strains of a British band playing British music, and followed the flag which he now calls his flag. If for no other reason I should like to have military drill in our schools, because our foreign friends are coming in very rapidly. We wish them to believe and know that British liberty is the greatest liberty in the world, and that the grand old Union Jack represents the highest ideals of civilization.

Educational Reasons.

But there are other reasons, mighty reasons, why military drill should be introduced into the schools—educational reasons, and they are even more rational in my judgment than the reasons I have already stated relating to patriotism. Everybody grants that military drill is one of the best agents for developing physical power; for developing the individual physically. We have got past the time when we thought it was enough to educate only a part of the mind. We now know that the physical part of a man requires development as well as the mental, for God created us physically, morally and spiritually, and if we develop one part of the power of the man at the expense of the other we are fighting against God. So we try to develop man physically as well as mentally. Another educational reason for physical and military drill in schools is that boys like it. I believe God made boys right, and I am not going to try to change their nature. I am going to try to develop the power of the boy, to develop God in the boy, to develop the soul in him. Every boy I ever knew loves to drill. My son, when he was 14, would not go to a baseball match. I never knew a boy who would go to a baseball match if he had an opportunity to turn out and drill with his company. I find the boys would rather go