

# Newcomers to Canada

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## *An Address*

Delivered before the

Conference Committee of One Hundred

of the

Toronto Board of Trade

By

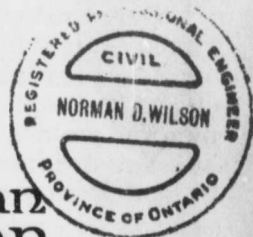
Z. A. Lash, Esq., K.C., LL.D.

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*The Canadian  
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**S**ERIOUS-MINDED citizens of Canada have noticed the unparalleled annual increase of our population by immigration within the past decade. None of the nearly *Four Hundred Thousand* newcomers of 1912 know anything material about our country's constitution, history or social structure. They are mostly adults—more than half of them, probably, of voting age.

This is worth thinking about!

In another generation their blood and ours may be mingling by marriage. They are invited to become Canadians. What kind of Canadians, think you, they are, who know nothing of Canada, or of what constitutes a single Canadian ideal?

Between *you* and *your* national conscience, what do you feel of responsibility for what results may flow from such a tremendous rush of racial forces into the quiet tenor of Canadian national growth?

The Canadian Countryman has made it its special business to provide and encourage in every way those many means of educating our newcomers so that our national future may be more secure and advantageous, rather than less so, because of the new increases of citizens of all races which yearly we receive into our communities.

But—the task is generations long, and deep and varied as human nature. It cannot be performed except by great co-operative effort in which all Canadians, especially all parents, all public-spirited men and women must join, each as he is able.

You are interested. You are concerned. Let us hear from you, offering to help.

*The Editor, Canadian Countryman*

Adelaide 2860

60½ Colborne St., Toronto



# Newcomers to Canada

An Address Before the "Conference Committee of 100" of the  
Toronto Board of Trade

By Z. A. LASH, K.C., LL.D.

**T**HE question upon which I have been asked to speak to you to-day is, "What is the best way to make the Newcomers to Canada good Canadians?" It is the highest compliment to our country that this question can be truthfully answered in one sentence, viz.: Give them full and true information respecting Canada.

It is difficult for me to conceive how average men or women who adopt Canada as their home, earn their living here, and become qualified to vote and take part in her affairs, can fail to become good Canadians and proud of their country when they have been properly informed about her constitution, her romantic history in the past, her present position as owner of the northern half of this continent, with its unlimited natural resources and possibilities, and her future as the nation within the great British Empire destined to take the leading part.

## Special Advantages of Life in Canada

We have great natural resources in our lands, forests, seas, lakes and rivers. Including our great Northwest, Canada is destined to become one of the greatest agricultural countries in the world, producing the finest quality of grain and other agricultural products in increasing quantities for indefinite years. British Columbia is a marvel of richness only awaiting development. We are but on the threshold of the development of the richness and resources of Ontario, Quebec and the Maritime Provinces. Our climate, taken as a whole, is healthy and enjoyable. Our people are sober, industrious, intelligent and law abiding. Our laws, speaking generally, are good, and are administered by courts against whose integrity and uprightness no suspicion has been breathed. Our press can be as free and independent as it likes, without fear of restraint except by public opinion and the law of libel. We have freedom of speech and of religious thoughts and opinions, and in their expression. Our country can produce everything necessary to healthful and comfortable living, and any sober and industrious man who desires to make Canada his home can earn a good living here. We have practically no pauper class of the kind known in the old world, and what distress there is from want of the necessities of

life is usually found in the cities and among those who crowd into them from other lands, and even among them it is short lived. All these reasons should make, and doubtless do make, dwellers in Canada contented and happy. But these reasons alone will not make them good Canadians. Crops may fail; business, for world-wide reasons, may become dull and inactive; work may be difficult to secure, and "hard times" generally may arise. He who in the face of hard times still loves and believes in his country and her constitution, and takes his part in upholding her nationality and working out her destiny as the leading unit in the wonderful group of Dominions and Colonies forming part of the great British Empire, he is the good Canadian, no matter what political party he may have joined, and no matter from what country he may have come.

There will always be a majority and a minority upon the details of all great questions; there are usually a majority and minority upon great questions themselves; but upon all questions which affect Canada's nationality the vast majority of good Canadians may in the long run be relied upon to take the true national view.

#### **Need of Knowledge of Our Constitution**

I have said that a knowledge of our natural resources and riches, of our people, of the upright administration of our laws, of the freedom of our press, of our speech and of our religious liberty, and of the ability to make a good living here, will not alone make a newcomer to Canada a good Canadian. In my opinion, a knowledge of the essentials of our constitution and law-making powers, and of our position and duties and responsibilities as a nation within the Empire, and, as connected with our constitution, a knowledge of our early and modern history (a subject full of interest and romance), are necessary to the making of a permanently good Canadian.

Although our constitution is a written one, and, so far as concerns our internal affairs, and the relations between the Provinces and between the Dominion and the Provinces, the British North America Act must be our guide, yet, so far as concerns Canada's position in the Empire, the relations between her and the other Dominions, the "five New Nations and the Islands of the Sea," and the relations between her and foreign countries, our future must largely depend upon ourselves and upon our appreciation of our duty to Canada, and of our duties and responsibilities towards the Mother Country and towards the other members of the Empire.

There are three main classes of immigrants who have come and are coming to Canada: 1st, those from Great Britain; 2nd, those from European countries, and 3rd, those from the United States of America.

#### **The Newcomers from Britain—A Word in Season**

Those coming from Great Britain, being British subjects, are entitled at once on compliance with formalities to vote at our elections.

The danger involved in the granting of an immediate franchise to newcomers is to a large extent counteracted by the fact that these people are British subjects and that they are already familiar with our general position as a daughter of the great British mother. At the same time, the danger is real, because many of them arrive without sufficient information for any intelligent opinions, or with preconceived opinions formed under conditions not applicable here. They have a great deal to unlearn before they can properly appreciate Canadian conditions. As a rule, those of them who have thought at all about the relations between the Colonies and the Empire have thought from the point of view of the mother towards her family; they have not seen from the point of view in Canada, where we aspire to be a nation within the Empire and to deal with and work out our own problems. A great deal of information must be imparted to the newcomers from Great Britain.

Those coming from European countries present different problems. They have everything to learn, including the language, and their education upon Canadian affairs must deal with its A. B. C.'s. Some of them, too, come with preconceived opinions. Under our present naturalization laws they have to be domiciled in Canada for three years before becoming British subjects. It is during this period that their education with respect to Canada and Canadian affairs will have the most important results.

#### **Newcomers from the United States—Some Facts They Should Know**

Those coming from the United States of America present other problems, and probably the most difficult of all. They, too, have to live here for three years before becoming naturalized, and this period should be taken advantage of to make them good Canadians, having the interests of Canada and the Empire first at heart.

The necessity for adopting and carrying out a proper plan of education and information for these three classes of newcomers must be apparent.

Let us deal first with those coming from the United States, and enquire why information respecting the essentials of our constitution and our law-making powers would tend to make them good Canadians. This involves a brief reference to the constitution of the United States and a partial comparison between it and the constitution of Canada.

In 1775 the thirteen colonies, which in 1776 declared their independence and threw off their allegiance to Great Britain, sent delegates to a meeting or congress to decide upon measures for joint action because of the revolution which was then pending; but there was not created any central body or authority having any general or legislative jurisdiction over the colonies or their people. Each colony claimed to be independent, but each acted with the others as against Great Britain and sent members to this joint congress. I quote from the Declaration of Independence:—

“We, therefore, the Representatives of the United States of

“America, in general congress assembled, do . . . solemnly publish  
“and declare that these united colonies are and of right ought to be  
“free and independent States . . . and that as free and independent  
“States they have full power to levy war, conclude peace, contract  
“alliances, establish commerce and to do all other acts and things  
“which independent States may of right do.”

In 1778 Articles of Confederation were agreed to by a majority of the thirteen, and subsequently ratified by them all. The purpose of these articles was the formation of a league of friendship for common defence and mutual welfare. They did not create a central government or law-making power; and so jealous were the States of their rights that the first article after the one declaring the name of the Confederacy was in these words:—

#### **The Separate Sovereignty of the Separate States**

“Each State retains its sovereignty, freedom and independence, and  
“every power, jurisdiction and right which is not by this Confedera-  
“tion expressly delegated to the thirteen States in congress assembled.”

When the present constitution of the United States was discussed, it was by men who represented separate States and who were jealous of their rights and careful to guard them. Some far-seeing minds among them doubtless had visions of their great future, but in the then condition of the world's trade, before the wonderful power of harnessed steam had been discovered and when the commercial uses of electricity were unknown, when communication between the different parts of the country was difficult and tedious, when there were no railways or other modern means of transportation, when the total population of the thirteen States was only about 3,000,000, and when they occupied only a fringe (comparatively speaking) along the Atlantic coast, it is not to be wondered at that in framing their constitution the conditions of the 19th and 20th centuries could not be foreseen, or, if foreseen by some, could not be provided for—provided against would probably be the better phrase. When, therefore, as representatives of independent States, they met to discuss a federal union, the natural tendency was to look at the question from the points of view of the States themselves. The result was a constitution granting to the Union such specified powers only as then seemed necessary to the schemes of federation and leaving reserved to the States (subject to some specified limitations) the whole balance of power which as independent States they then claimed to possess.

The present constitution of the United States of America as signed in 1787 did not make express provision on this head. Express provision was unnecessary; but to remove any possible doubt it was amended in 1789 in these words:—

“The powers not delegated to the United States by the constitu-  
“tion nor prohibited by it to the States, are reserved to the States  
“respectively or to the people.”

Since 1787 the fringe along the Atlantic coast has been extended from the Atlantic to the Pacific, and from the Gulf of Mexico and Mexico as it now is, to Canada. The population has increased from 3,000,000 to nearly 100,000,000. Railways and telegraphs and telephones connect the West with the East, and the South with the North. Transportation and communication are now easier and more rapid between New York and San Francisco than they were in 1787 between New York and Philadelphia; and, so far as trade is concerned, the whole country from North to South and from East to West is practically one.

#### A Comparison with Our Early Provinces

Contrast the position of the thirteen States in 1787 with that of the three Colonies which in 1867 became federated as the Dominion of Canada, viz.: the Province of Canada—then Upper and Lower Canada but united by a Legislative Union—the Province of New Brunswick, and the Province of Nova Scotia. In the first place, they had not thrown off their allegiance to Great Britain, and they did not feel as did the thirteen Colonies, that having thrown off one power they would not set up another over them, even of their own making. They met to form a Union, which on its very face made provision for including the northern half of this continent. They had before them the example of the United States of America as a guide and as a warning. They knew something about the weaknesses of that constitution, and they knew the strong points of the constitution of Great Britain. They knew the effect upon trade of railways and telegraphs and modern means of transportation and communication. They did not come to discuss a union as Independent States anxious to retain all their sovereign powers and to give to the new Dominion such powers only as seemed necessary to the scheme, reserving to themselves all balance of power, but they met to form a union which would in the near future possess and govern Canada from coast to coast, and which would have to deal with the problems of Empire and solve difficulties which had confronted the United States. Like the United States, they decided upon a Federal Union, creating a central legislative and executive power, and creating Provinces which would control their local affairs, but, unlike the United States, they conferred upon the Dominion general powers to make laws for the "peace, order and good government of Canada." and carved out of this general power certain specified powers which they conferred upon the Provinces. These specified powers have proved sufficient for all practical local purposes, and with no expressions of dissatisfaction worth mentioning as to the division of legislative authority between the Dominion and the Provinces our people are happy and contented with the Canadian Constitution. The great difference in principle between the United States and the Canadian federation is that in the United States the federal authority has only specified powers, the whole balance being possessed by the States, whereas in Canada the Provinces have the specified powers and the whole balance is possessed by the Dominion.

The working out of this difference makes apparent every day defects in the United States constitution and advantages in ours.

I quote from the recital in the British North America Act 1867:—

“Whereas the Provinces of Canada, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick have expressed their desire to be federally united into one Dominion under the Crown of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland with a constitution similar in principle to that of the United Kingdom.”

### **The People Must Rule in Canada**

As we all know, the great principle which ran through that constitution in 1867 was that, though a monarchy, the people rule. This great principle runs through the constitution of Canada.

The law-making power of the Dominion is conferred in these words:—

“It shall be lawful for the Queen, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate and House of Commons, to make laws for the peace, order and good government of Canada, in relation to all matters not coming within the classes of subjects by this Act assigned exclusively to the Legislatures of the Provinces.”

This is a general grant, and carries with it legislative power over all classes of subjects, the power over which has not by the Act been exclusively granted to the Provinces.

There are various subjects upon which defects in the United States constitution exist, and which defects are not to be found in the constitution of Canada. I shall illustrate by four only, viz., Trade, Transportation, the Criminal Law, Marriage and Divorce.

In the United States the specified jurisdiction over trade is conferred upon the federal body in these words: “To regulate commerce with foreign nations and among the several States and with the Indian tribes.” In Canada it belongs to the Dominion under the general grant, because it has not been conferred upon the Provinces; but for greater certainty and not so as to limit the general grant the Act specially declares that the Legislative authority of Canada includes “the regulation of trade and commerce.”

In the United States the general Criminal Law comes under the jurisdiction of the States because it has not been specially granted to the central authority; so also do “Marriage and Divorce,” whereas in Canada these subjects belong to the Dominion because they have not been specifically granted to the Province, and, “for greater certainty,” they are named as part of the Dominion jurisdiction.

I mention these particular subjects because they are of constant general interest and it is easy to illustrate the defects of the United States constitution regarding them and the advantages of our own.



### Control Over Trade and Transportation in Canada and U. S.

Take the subject of trade, and of transportation, which is so intimately connected with it. It does not require much consideration to see that to regulate efficiently the trade of a country the size of Canada or the United States, where the question of transportation and freight rates is of such vital importance, where discrimination may enrich one industry or section and ruin another, and where huge combinations may practically monopolize the necessaries of life, both in foods and manufactures, there should be one general legislative power capable of dealing with all the important questions which are involved. In Canada we have such power in the Dominion Parliament. In the United States the power which Congress possesses is confined to that species of commerce which is with foreign countries, among the several States and with the Indian tribes. This power is far short of what is required to successfully cope with the evils connected with trade and transportation which have grown up in the States. Attempts to cope with them have been made by Congress, but so far they have been only partially successful, owing, I believe, mainly to the difficulty, if not the impossibility, of framing effective laws because of the defective jurisdiction which is vested in Congress. Each State has power to regulate trade and transportation within its own borders. It is, in fact, only by implication that Congress has any jurisdiction over State railways, and this implied jurisdiction extends only so far as it can be said to be a regulation of commerce among the several States or with foreign nations.

With respect to trade which begins and ends within a State, Congress is practically powerless. 'Tis true that our Provinces, like the various States, have power to incorporate railways to operate in the Province, and to regulate their tariffs and their business, and to establish commissions for that purpose, but this power is contained in the grant of legislative authority over "local works and undertakings" and "the incorporation of companies with Provincial objects." To complete the jurisdiction of the Dominion over such local works and undertakings express power is vested in the Parliament of Canada to declare a local work or undertaking to be for the general advantage of Canada or of any two or more of the Provinces, and upon such declaration being made, Parliament has jurisdiction over it. No such power is vested in Congress with respect to works within a State. Bear in mind, too, that in Canada the power to regulate trade and commerce is vested in the Dominion Parliament and not in the Provinces.

With respect, therefore, to the two great subjects of trade and transportation, a newcomer from the United States of America comes to a country where under its constitution power exists to pass efficient laws to guard against the evils which exist in the country he comes from, and he may well be satisfied with the change. This power has been exercised already in important instances, such as the Act creating an all powerful Railway Commission and the Act relating

to the investigation of injurious trade combinations. Clear power exists to make such amendments and additions to these Acts as the public interests may from time to time require.

#### **Administration of Criminal Law is Better in Canada**

Turn now to the Criminal Law. In Canada, complete jurisdiction over it and over the procedure in criminal matters is vested in the Dominion Parliament, whereas in the United States each State possesses this power, with the result that their criminal laws and procedure differ, and differ widely in some instances, not only as to what constitutes a crime but as to the trial of the offender and his punishment.

We have not in Canada the scandals and delays and perversions of justice which are constantly in evidence in the States in connection with criminal trials. Our criminal procedure is prompt and sure. Crime does not go unpunished, and no lynchings, because the power of the law fails, take place. No one can say of Canada, as President Taft felt constrained to say publicly of the United States, "I grieve for my country to say that the administration of criminal law in all the States of this Union (there may be one or two exceptions) is a disgrace to our civilization."

Courts and judges and the administration of justice here are more respected by the people generally than they are in the States, and our criminal justice is more promptly administered, but I firmly believe that, if the United States constitution had granted to the central authority exclusive power over criminal law and procedure, Congress would have enacted such laws, applying to the whole country, as would have gone far to obviate the scandals and delays and perversions of justice and lynchings, and to make it impossible for any President of that great nation to utter the lament I have quoted.

As with the subject of trade and transportation, so with that of Criminal Law and Procedure, a newcomer from the United States may well feel satisfied with the change.

#### **Marriage and Divorce in Canada and the United States**

Take the subject of "Marriage and Divorce." In the United States each State has full jurisdiction over it. In Canada the jurisdiction is vested in the Dominion Parliament. The Provinces have authority over "the solemnization of marriage in the Province" only. As with the administration of criminal justice, we have not in Canada the scandals and disgrace which prevail in many of the States in relation to marriage and divorce, especially divorce. The conditions which there prevail and which are a humiliation to their best and right-thinking people are not possible in Canada. Polygamy could never be recognized or encouraged by the law, as it is in Utah. The sacredness of the marriage tie could never be treated with such levity as it is treated with in some of the States. Can there be any doubt that over a subject

so vital to the continued well being of a people, the central authority, which represents all the people and not merely a State or Province, should have the jurisdiction? As in the case of criminal law and procedure, I firmly believe that if the United States constitution had granted to the central authority exclusive power over marriage and divorce, Congress would have enacted such laws, applicable to the whole country, as would have prevented that special blot which now blackens the most sacred side of their social life. Certainly, with regard to marriage and divorce, the right-thinking newcomer from the United States may well feel satisfied with the change.

### **Comparing Banking Systems and Control**

I would like to explain the differences between the United States constitution and ours relating to banking, but to do so would occupy too much of the time allowed for this address. I can only assert my belief that if Congress had possessed from the beginning the same complete legislative authority over this subject, extending over the whole of their country, as is possessed by the Dominion Parliament, extending over the whole of Canada, they would have been better equipped to deal efficiently with their banking system, and to remedy or even prevent the evils which now are associated with it. They could have created one uniform system for the whole country. As it is, each State has power to create banks and pass laws respecting their business, so that one uniform system is now practically impossible. In Canada, the Dominion Parliament has complete and exclusive authority over "banking, the incorporation of banks, and the issue of paper money." I am convinced that, had there been in Canada a divided jurisdiction over this subject, it would not have been possible to create and continue and improve from time to time, the Canadian Banking System, which is the envy of our friends to the south and which has done and is doing so much for the welfare and development of our country.

It would occupy more time than is now at my disposal to refer to the great advantages which await newcomers from European countries, and to contrast the disadvantages under which they live in the countries from which they come. I can only say that if they be properly informed with respect to Canada, her resources, the rights and liberties of her people, her constitution and her place in the Empire, and if the proper contrasts between Canadian conditions and their old land conditions be placed before them, the task of making them good Canadians will be a comparatively easy one.

### **British Newcomer Needs the Canadian Point of View**

Nor can I do more here than refer to the necessity of keeping before the newcomers from Great Britain the Canadian point of view and extending their information upon Canadian conditions and questions, and contrasting them with the conditions and questions affecting the mother country. They are already British subjects, and when they

have learned to see things from the Canadian standpoint they will soon become good Canadians.

#### **The Need for the National Viewpoint—to see the Common Interest of all Sections**

The natural tendency of residents anywhere is to give first place to their locality and to the particular business in which they are engaged, and when questions arise affecting themselves, to disregard the interests of other localities and other businesses. In matters of purely local concern this tendency is harmless and may even be worthy of praise, but when it extends to questions of wider or national import, it becomes harmful in the extreme. It checks the growth and development of the broad national spirit which is so essential to the growth and development of a nation. This tendency is based upon the ingrained selfishness of human nature, and it is hard to overcome. The narrower the range of knowledge respecting other localities and other businesses and other interests, the stronger this tendency becomes. The only way by which its harmful growth can be prevented is by the spread of wider knowledge and information and the extension of the local point of view. Therefore, in the making of good Canadians, be they newcomers or native born, it is essential that they should be correctly informed with respect to localities and interests other than their own, so that they may be able to understand properly the broader questions which arise and to regard them from the national standpoint.

Canada is a large country; the East is far from the West; her people have many and different occupations; there are farmers and manufacturers, grain growers and merchants, lenders and borrowers, dwellers in cities, in towns and in country; but when looked at from the true point of view it becomes apparent that the West and the East have the great and lasting interests in common, that farmers and manufacturers, grain growers and merchants, lenders and borrowers, and dwellers in cities, towns and country, all have common interests, and that it is only by working together and for the good of Canada as a whole that she can be made truly great.

#### **Wide Co-operation Between all Public Men, Journalists, Pastors and Masters is Essential**

How is information upon all these matters to be given to our newcomers and to our people? It cannot be done at one time or in one way; the process must be varied and continuous. Members of Parliament and of the Legislatures, and public men generally, should constantly take advantage of their opportunities and give information in their public speeches, and they should from time to time give specially prepared public addresses upon this subject. Newspaper editors should furnish editorials upon it. Articles upon it by competent writers should be printed in newspapers and magazines, and the Canadian press generally should constantly reprint and publish as many as possible of those speeches, addresses, editorials and articles.

At least one journal should be established whose chief purpose would be the giving, in attractive form, of information upon the matters referred to, and whose main object would be, by the making of good Canadians, the upholding of Canadian nationality and the successful working out of the great problems which confront her as a nation within the Empire.

### **Our Children and their Proper Education**

I have spoken so far only of information to grown men and women, but there is a class of newcomers to Canada which is even more important. I refer to the children who come here with their parents and to those who are newcomers of another kind and who first see the light in Canada. Their education should include more information upon Canadian subjects than is now given in our schools, as well as information differently and more attractively presented. I suggest for the consideration of our Provincial Governments the advisability of joining in having prepared for use in all Provincial schools in Canada a text book containing such information, attractively given, including romantic parts of our early history, what it means to be part of the British Empire, why we preferred to remain such and refused to join the United States in throwing off our allegiance to Great Britain, the struggles of our early settlers and their successful fight with nature, the growth of our cities and towns, the romantic career of the Hudson's Bay Company and their control of our great Northwest, the reasons for Confederation, its nature and its results, our geography, and the richness and resources of our lands, our forests, mines, seas, lakes and rivers, our liberties and rights as a free people, and the many other interesting and important things, accurate knowledge upon which, attractively imparted, could readily be acquired by the young, and which, when acquired, would form the right foundation upon which could be built their future part, as good Canadians, in Canadian affairs.

### **Mr. L. E. Embree, M.A., LL.D., Principal of Jarvis Street Collegiate Institute, in Seconding the Vote of Thanks to Mr. Lash on Conclusion of the Foregoing Address:**

"There are several educational agencies in Toronto working to bring about the transformation of foreign immigrants into Canadian citizens.

"For some years I have advocated a fuller use of the schools with which I have been more particularly associated, and have regarded it as a great mistake that the expensive educational equipment provided by the city should be used only thirty-five or forty hours a week. This year the Board of Education organized night classes in the High Schools to give opportunity for further education to those who are obliged to leave school at too early an age. In recommending the opening of these night classes, I had in view not

only their educational value, but also their value as a counteracting influence to the questionable places of resort which present so many attractions to young people.

### Foreign Youth are Anxious to Learn

"Since these classes were opened I have come to regard them also as an important factor in the work of Canadianizing the foreigners who are flocking into Toronto from eastern and southern Europe. In all my experience I have never seen such eagerness for knowledge, as is shown by the young men of foreign speech and thought who attend these classes, and I hope that advantage will be taken of this eagerness to provide them with facilities for becoming familiar with the use of the English language, with little or no cost for tuition. I hope also that studies in these night schools will be directed along the lines suggested by Mr. Lash, and classes formed to familiarize immigrants with the history and resources of our country, the development and working of our constitution, and the administration of our provincial and municipal modes of government.

"These newcomers must be converted into intelligent, loyal citizens, or become a menace to our country, and every agency should be employed that will help to bring about the former result, and make their descendants, even of the next generation, proud to call themselves Canadians."

None of the earnest educationists who have made our schools efficient has a more noteworthy record than Mr. L. E. Embree, M.A. Ph.D., Principal of Jarvis Street Collegiate Institute, in Toronto. Born in Cape Breton, Nova Scotia, he was educated there and at the University of Toronto. He has been successively principal of collegiate institutes or colleges at Yarmouth, N.S., Strathroy, Whitby and Toronto, Ontario.

Always an efficient exponent of our present system, he has never been content with it. He has become noted for a wise and critical progressiveness and a pronounced interest in matters of public concern.

The Editor.



It is the wish of the Editors of The Canadian Countryman to do whatever may be possible—at its own expense—to promote the welfare of Canada by improving the situation and the capabilities of newcomers to Canada.

The Canadian Countryman is independent of either party, and relies on the cordial co-operation of members of both great parties in Canada, as on that of all classes and sections of opinion and interest.

In national matters there may be two opinions, but there can be only one ideal. Hence this paper offers free discussion of both sides of disputed questions, demanding only fairness, good feeling and concentration by all upon the achievement of the educational ideals upon which it is founded.

That our ideals and purposes appeal is shown by the fact that from our first issue on Oct. 12th till our twenty-third on March 22nd, we received the subscriptions of over 30,000 people—a world's record!

Most of these subscribers are farmers. Nearly half of them are settlers in the Canadian West. Of all classes in Canada, these are most in need—and most realize it—of good practical instruction on matters pertaining to good government, education, history, scientific farming, economical buying and selling, and the many other matters upon which their prosperity and that of the nation as a whole depends.

A COMMON national view point is greatly to be desired in any country—in none more so than, if as much so as in Canada. It is everyone's duty to seek common ground with everyone else, rather than grounds of difference. If we have helped to find and emphasize one such ground whereon all may meet and work together in building up a healthy citizenship in Canada out of the many elements being daily introduced into our crucible, we are doubly grateful to Mr. Lash for the opportunity and the text!

Let us hear from you!

*The Editor*

## The Canadian Countryman

Adelaide 2860

60½ Colborne St., Toronto

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