

**International Year  
of Volunteers**

**Année internationale  
des volontaires**

*In Honour  
of your Volunteer  
Contribution*

*En hommage  
à votre contribution  
bénévole*



**2 0 0 1**

*Wallacetown Women's Institute*

**Thank you for  
helping to strengthen  
your community  
and province**

**Merci d'aider  
à fortifier  
votre collectivité et  
votre province**



*Cam Jackson*

The Honourable Cam Jackson / L'honorable Cam Jackson  
Minister of Citizenship / Ministre des Affaires civiques



## The Function of the Educator in the Making of the Nation.

The science of government, we in Canada are trying to work is democracy, which means that what the people wish to have in the way of government, they have the power to secure, Legislators and others sharing in the management or direction of the affairs of the people municipal, provincial, or Dominion - do so by the authority of the people. What they do, we the people are responsible for. If we wish high things we will strive for them. Our people must be educated in high right thinking - Sayman Abbot summarized the aim of democracy "the diffusion of happiness through the gradual growth, the secret of which is the indwelling of God in humanity, the end of which is the brotherhood of man".

Canada is a difficult country to govern. Scattered in a vast region, extending from the Atlantic to the Pacific are living less than nine million people. To create any kind of unity among these people to instruct them in the vital problems of citizenship, to appeal to them in such a way that they will act together, is a problem of almost overwhelming difficulty. When we add to this certain questions of race which stand in the way



of mutual understanding, we shall need all the hopefulness that we can summon to our help. The French in Quebec almost one quarter of our population, speak a different language from that of the majority in the other parts of Canada. In our North West there are tens of thousands of aliens, reared in conditions totally different from ours. It is out of these varied elements we are to create a united people.

What can we do to better our community? Each person must keep his own record clean, just as each citizen helps raise the tone of his city by sweeping before his own door. Patriotism, the love of liberty and political sagacity, which form the leading qualities of good citizenship are directly fostered by education. If the vote is to be of ~~use~~ value, it must be the result of an intelligent survey of conditions and a careful study of problems. The future voters, the future rulers of Canada, are at the desks in the school-room. How vast and far-reaching therefore is the influence of the teacher. "Teachers hold high rank as the makers of the nation and as the builders of the Empire" The fit discharge of such duties ought to receive high acknowledge.



on the part of the state, in salary, status and public honor.

Men who are gentlemen, pure, chivalrous, loyal; women, who are gentlewomen, refined in speech and manner, bearing about them the atmosphere of peace and grace, witnessing continually to the reality of the ideal; teachers such as these are rendering in a laudable service to the state. If hereafter the state is to have citizens who are brave, patriotic, honest lovers of truth and knowledge, supporters of every good cause, it will owe them in part at least to the teachers of the Public Schools.

Those accordingly, who are preparing men and women for their life's task deserve well of the state and the community.

To secure teachers, men and women full of zeal for ~~the~~ bringing the best and highest out of their pupils we must have strong wise, hopeful trustees; men and women, who when they find the teachers they want, will keep them, and will impress the fact on the community that they possess a rare heart, a noble nature, a personality that cannot be replaced and must be retained. Enthusiastic and ambitious trustees



must ever be as some one has said like  
 Caesar, willing to be slain for their ambitious  
 for we all know taxpayers <sup>carry</sup> have many  
 daggers. Trustees should be strong, pure, and  
 honest, having a constant watchfulness  
 over the work of the school, aiding encour-  
 aging and impressing the teacher and  
 the ~~people~~ pupils with the part they do and  
 will play in Canada's making. In play, in  
 work, in debate, in morals, in culture, the  
 trustees must lead the pupils in all that is  
true, noble and healthful. This is part of  
 the responsibility of guardianship, of trustee-  
 ship of our schools for Canadian men and  
 women.

A nation abides through labor, not ingenuity  
 so manual training should be given a  
 bold place in education. The attention of the  
 child should be directed to the honesty of  
 work rather than its kind. False worship  
 and artificial respect for professional  
 life should be banished.

The child is the greatest ~~factor~~ asset of the nation  
 and the love of children is one thing and mere  
 fondness for children is another and a different



thing. Many a mother is as fond of her children as she is foolish about them. The difference between mere fondness and real love is largely this - that the mother who really loves her child, and wishes to bring that child right, keeps in view the future welfare of the child; whereas the mother who is merely fond of the child thinks only of the pleasure of the moment, she never thinks of the future welfare of the child. It is the same way with the teacher.

There is no school teacher that can take a child six or seven years of age and change the habits that have been formed in the home. The teacher must work on the material that comes to her from the home. If the home foundations are badly laid, then the teacher is working on a poor foundation and cannot be held responsible for bad results. The responsibility lies with the father and mother.

There are other influences at work on the life of a child but first and most potent of all is the home. There are those who are reared in an atmosphere of sin and neglect and they, out to add to the human wreckage cast upon the shore of life. There are those who born of godly



parents, and consecrated to Him before birth are taken up in the arms of love and prayer. Regarded as a sacred trust from the All Father there are woven about them influences which by divine blessing will hold them steadfast and true when the hour of testing comes.

There are some who have drifted far away: they seemed about to make shipwreck but in the crisis hour the memory of a godly home, or of a mother's prayers has been to them as an anchor chain and they have been kept safe where others have gone down.

Finally, let the mothers attend the Public School Annual Meetings, elect the best men and women in the section as Trustees and encourage our Teachers in directing their energies along the right lines.

The true glory of citizenship is found in doing, in a simple way, the things that tend to righteousness. Let the aim of life be high - Live.

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