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Appeal to Graduates to Stay In Canada Even at Sacrifice

A. O. Dawson of Montreal, Distinguished Son of New Brunswick, Addressed Class of 1926 at University—Value of Education Emphasized—Reference to Endowment Fund Campaign—Excellent Advice as to Method of Life.

The address to the Graduating Class which has become an outstanding feature of the encaenia proceedings of the University of New Brunswick was delivered this afternoon by a son of New Brunswick who achieved marked success in the commercial life of Canada, A. O. Dawson of Montreal, vice-president of Canadian Cottons Limited.

The outstanding feature of the address was the appeal made by the speaker on whom the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws was conferred, to the Class of 1926 to remain within the borders of Canada if even at a sacrifice. With this was associated the thought that graduates of a state institution should make adequate return to the state in the form of service. The speaker expressed his own regret that he never had had the opportunity of securing a university education. It could not be expected that every graduate of a college could make a pronounced success of life but the chance of his doing so is much greater than that of the man not so well educated.

To the members of the class Dr. Dawson gave some wholesome advice concerning the mode of life which they should follow, to reach the best results. He also spoke strongly in support of the University in the matter of the Endowment Fund and also of greater attention to the Maritime Provinces on the part of the rest of Canada.

ADDRESS TO CLASS.

A. O. Dawson, Distinguished Son of New Brunswick Delivered Instructive Address.

I am greatly honoured by this occasion. This University, from whose halls so many distinguished men and women have gone to enrich the life of this and other countries, confers a distinction on that person who is invited to address its graduating class.

140 years have passed since Dr. William Payne and six other Loyalists induced the Governor and Council of this Province to establish an Academy, endowed with a free site and lands for its maintenance. That was the beginning of this institution. If anyone qualified to do so should write the history of the University of New Brunswick through the long swing of the years from that early day, the record would certainly be most inspiring.

Sir George Foster.

For many years I have been greatly interested in all the Educational Institutions of Canada and particularly in McGill of my own City and Queen's University, Kingston, because of my long friendship with its honoured Principal. I feel too, that I should take a very special interest in this University of my native Province. I intend therefore to follow closely the progress of your Half Million Dollar Endowment Campaign recently inaugurated by one of your distinguished graduates—the Right Hon. Sir George E. Foster.

During his lifetime Sir George has been closely identified with many movements benefitting both Canada and the Empire yet I venture to say that no more worthy matter than this Endowment Fund has commanded his attention or won his support. This Fund deserves the enthusiastic backing of all our citizens, and particularly of New Brunswick people resident in this or other countries.

The Endowment Fund.

Many citizens residing in Quebec, Ontario, and in the far Western Provinces, recognize that the Confederation Pact calls for certain special considerations for the Maritime Provinces. Of late there has been inquiry how these special considerations might best be given. Might I suggest to these friends that one way in which this can be done, and in a most helpful and enduring form, would be to assist this Endowment Fund Campaign liberally. No University can do its best work if it is continuously hampered for funds. The marvel is that this institution has been able to accom-

plish so much with the meager aid it has had from the New Brunswick Legislature and from private citizens. Let us hope that the hearts of Chancellor Jones and those associated with him may be gladdened by the generous support that this Endowment Fund will receive from many men in Canada interested in the maintenance and advancement of higher education.

Felt the Handicap.

Opportunity to secure a college education was denied me, and I have felt this handicap all my life. I am the more anxious therefore that the young people of today shall have the greatest opportunity to secure an education to fit themselves to serve the community in an adequate way. Three of my own young people are graduates of McGill, and I hope to see my two younger children complete their courses there.

I am aware that spending four, five or six years in college does not necessarily mean a successful career for every student. We know that not all college-bred men can be heard from after they leave their Alma Mater. But all things being equal, the man or woman who has received a college training has an infinitely better chance of making good than the one who has had to be satisfied with a more moderate education.

Pebbles and Diamonds.

It has been said that a college is frequently a place where they polish a pebble and dim a diamond. The following figures recently made public regarding some of the distinguished men of the United States amply refute this and prove the enormous benefits of a college education. The record is as follows:

With no schooling, of 5 million only 31 attained distinction.

With elementary schooling, of 3 million 808 attained distinction.

With high school education, of 2 million 1245 attained distinction.

With college education, of 1 million 5768 attained distinction.

The child with no schooling has one chance in 150,000 of performing distinguished service, with elementary education he has four times the chance, with high school education 57 times the chance, with college education 800 times the chance.

Education and Opportunity.

Do you appreciate your chance? The Irishman's definition of a grape-fruit was "a lemon that had a chance." I should not like to call any of the young people before me "lemons," even though they might have been so designated before they had the chance this University has given them. I am certain that all of you are now in the "grape-fruit" grade, and that continuously you will bring cheer and refreshment to those with whom you come in contact.

Hope of the Future.

It is increasingly true that the hope of the future lies in the youth of the present. Every young person is a potential leader in law, in medicine, in science, in art, in commerce, or in other of the many activities of life. This is particularly true of the college graduate. In the coming days his words and his actions will inevitably exert a strong influence over those of his fellow men with whom he is in contact. In the study of economics, social and political problems, which undoubtedly has engaged your attention, I feel sure you have recognized that the training you have had is intended not alone for your personal benefit, but for the larger opportunity of serving the community, and for a fuller and more effective discharge of your obligations to the public.

The students of this and other Universities, I believe, are not seeking to acquire an education simply for selfish purposes, and for personal gain. In the main I am sure they are conscious of the duty of the individual in public service, and recognize that their main objects should always be to cure disease; to remove ignorance; to improve agricultural and industrial methods; to make and enforce just laws, and generally to lift their generation to a higher standard.

I trust that not one member of this graduating class will feel as did a recent graduate of the University of Nebraska, who, not finding it easy to secure a position, made the following complaint:

What To Expect.

"At the University they trained my mind by methods of study, they crammed it full of history, philosophy, theory and facts, but left me untrained to meet the world and its problems. My University has failed me; it taught me idealism when I needed realism. If I criticize, I offer also a remedy, discard a history, a philosophy, a Greek, a geography, a latin and an economics instructor, and hire a \$15,000 a year man who has trained men and knows men."

To my mind that man was expecting altogether too much from his University, or rather he was expecting that which his University never proposed to give him. The University is not a Trade School, nor does it pretend to place special emphasis on the money-making side of life. A college course is intended primarily to train the students to think for themselves. Those who prepare the Curriculum believe that the general culture a student receives as a result of his studies is of inestimable value, and that the making of money is not the primary nor highest objective.

Vocational Schools.

New Brunswick, like the other Provinces of Canada, recognizes that comparatively few of her young people can afford the time or the means to take a college course and hence, through its vocational schools and its Composite High Schools, provision is made whereby the boys and girls of the Province can obtain an education that will fit them for a useful and happy life.

New Brunswick with less than 400,000 people has invested more than three quarters of a million dollars to provide accommodation for vocational training, not including the cost of equipment of these institutions. This means that provision has now been made for more than 1500 full time day vocational students, and twice that number of evening pupils.

Education for Its Own Sake.

During the years in which I have been associated with the Montreal Technical Institute I have seen hundreds of boys and girls graduate well equipped to earn a good living and to serve the community in which they reside. And yet I am coming more and more to value an education for its own sake. It is a wonderful asset to have a cultured mind; to be able to absorb and enjoy the best literature; and to converse intelligently with well read men and women. Educated people in the community broaden the life of the people, and by their inspiration and example enrich the whole structure of existence.

Living a Life.

We must not overlook the fact that we all must make a living, but let us not forget that while we are making a living we are also living a life. I hope that no young man or woman leaving these Halls of Learning today is going out with any idea other than that the only life worth while is the life that is given to the service of mankind. If this be your objective then you will cultivate the helpful spirit that brings its own reward. Perhaps I can best illustrate this with the following simple story:

A man moving from Johnstown to Jamestown, passing along the highway with his load of furniture, saw a farmer standing at a gate. He held up his horses, and asked the farmer if he could tell him the type of people living in Jamestown, the farmer in reply asked him the kind of people he left in Johnstown. "Well!" exclaimed the man, "I am moving so as to be able to live in a more agreeable atmosphere. The people in Johnstown, in my experience, are narrow, disagreeable, selfish, ungrateful, poor neighbors, and I am very glad to get away from them." The farmer replied "I am

sorry to say that you will find in Jamestown exactly the kind of people you are leaving behind in Johnstown," and the man passed on his way much depressed.

The next day it so happened that another man moving from Johnstown to Jamestown also called the farmer and asked him the same question, what type of people he would probably find in the town to which he was going. The farmer asked him the same question that he asked the man of the previous day,—what type of people was he leaving behind him in Johnstown.

(Continued on page seven)

CITY OF FREDERICTON BUILDING LAWS

The attention of property owners is directed to the following amendments to the Building Laws of the City of Fredericton, which became effective April 14th, 1926:

"1. From and after the passing of this Act, it shall not be lawful to erect a wooden building of any kind within the Building Limits.

2. From and after the passing of this Act, the roof of every building erected within the Water, Fire, and Light Limits, and any roof removed within the said Limits, shall be of slate, gravel, metal, sparum roofing or other fire-resisting material.

3. From and after the passing of this Act, Public or Service Garages shall only be established in buildings constructed of brick, stone, or other fireproof material."

It is necessary to obtain a permit to build or repair a building.

Permits are issued at the office of the undersigned.

C. FRED CHESTNUT, City Clerk.

City Hall, May 12, 1926.

CAPITOL

NEXT MON-TUES-WED

UNDER PATRONAGE BRITISH ADMIRALTY

H. R. H.

THE PRINCE OF WALES

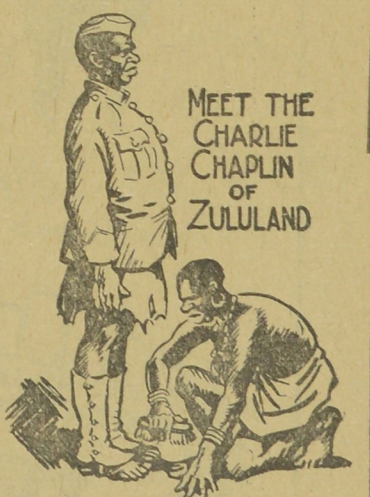
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