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Sessional Paper No. 73; and on the table of the House last Session.
 (1) How much has been expended in the propaganda for the recruiting of pupils for the Agricultural schools from June 30, 1895 to June 30, 1896?

Answer.—The Archbishop of Montreal has received \$175.00 to secure the services of Rev. Canon Raicot and later of Rev. P. Lacasse. Dr. Grignon whilst giving lectures on agriculture gives special attention to the enrolling of pupils, he draws his salary of \$100.00 per month and has also drawn an extra \$816.88 for travelling expenses.

(2) How much has been spent for the same purposes from June 30, 1895 to the 1st December instant and to whom have the various sums been paid?

Answer.—The Archbishop of Montreal has received the sum of \$150.00 for the services of the Rev. P. Lacasse and Dr. Grignon expended \$35.00 for travelling expenses which has been refunded by the Department. Dr. Grignon continues to draw his monthly salary and in addition the sum of \$153.95 for travelling expenses.

(3) How many pupils have been recruited?

Answer.—The Department does not possess exact information on this subject, but by comparing the number of pupils in the various schools on June 30,

1895 with the present number it is easy to determine the results of the campaign conducted by Rev. M. Raicot, Rev. P. Lacasse and Dr. Grignon:

Number of pupils on June 30, 1895 . . . 48
 Number of pupils at present 79

(4) How many have been enrolled in each school?

Answer.—The Department is not in a position to give any information.

(5)—How long have these pupils stayed in each school?

Answer.—Same reply.

To increase the number of schools when the pupils are missing seems a bit strange to ordinary mortals; but then it is the Government we are dealing with.

The Compton School on June 30, 1896, had only three pupils; the School of Farm Domestic Economy at Roberval, in spite of its high-sounding name, hadn't any. From Sessional Paper 43, last session, it appears that in spite of the labors of the scholar hunters the number of pupils—even temporarily—on November, 26 was only 80.

If the sum it costs the Province to keep these schools be divided by the number of pupils after this costly campaign it will be found that each pupil costs TWO HUNDRED AND FIFTY DOLLARS per annum and that without counting the expenses of the recruiting sergeants. Is the game worth the candle?

What do we get in Return for all the Money Spent on the Agricultural Schools?

Answer as seen everywhere. NOTHING. It is startling, but unfortunately too true, that the few who have had the "benefit" of the training, when they have put it into practice, have been very quickly brought to the verge of ruin.

The words of a man who has been the head of the Agricultural School at St. Anne de la Pocatiere for the last ten years ought to carry some weight on this point. Here they are extracted from the report of the Commissioner of Agriculture for 1896, page 1:

To the Hon. Minister of Agriculture and Colonization, Quebec:

Sir,—We have the honor to submit our report on the work done at the Agricultural School of St. Anne de la Pocatiere, both theoretical and practical, for the fiscal year ending the 30th June, 1896.

We observe with regret that the general progress in so important an art (the cultivation of the soil) responds but slowly to the energetic impetus which it receives from the three sources above mentioned. (Press, lectures and special agricultural schools.)

Notwithstanding the special instructions given to all the rural population of this Province, notwithstanding even the spirit of proselytism which animates the greater number of our farmers' clubs and agricultural societies, the immense majority of our farmers still remain attached to the errors and faults of the old system of farming. If we travel through the country parts and observe carefully, it is as much as we can do to find some twenty out of the grand total of farmers who effectively cultivate in a really improving manner, and this even in parishes which