

had crept in during various amendments thereto, and with the intention of improving the law in various other respects. The result of their work was taken by the Government as a basis for a new act. The principal modification made by the Government in the scheme prepared by the committees provided for the substitution of a minister of the crown for a superintendent or chief of the Education Department. The opposition to the bill was made chiefly on this point and on others connected with it. As the RECORD is a non-political journal it expresses no opinion upon the merits of this question, which may now be considered a party one, but it may be permitted to express a regret that many important and useful amendments that commended themselves to every one should, from the very nature of things, have shared the fate of the parts that caused opposition. For instance, it was expected that great good would have come from the clause which empowered school boards to amalgamate weak schools and provide for the conveyance of the remote pupils at the general expense. In many of the New England states, notably in Massachusetts, this plan has passed through the experimental stage and has shown that it conduces to efficiency and economy. We know of many districts in this province where the attendance is so small that it would be far cheaper to close the school and transport the ten or twelve pupils to and from a neighbouring school twice a day.

—THE Superintendent's Annual Report gives some interesting statistics. There were 6,588 lay teachers and professors teaching in the province last year. The Protestants numbered 1,397, 138 male and 1259 female; 55 of the former taught in elementary schools and 83 in model schools and academies; 12 were without diplomas. Of the women, 1,038 taught in elementary schools and 221 in model schools and academies; 61 had no diplomas. Had we special diplomas for the special teachers of music, drawing, drill, manual training, cookery, etc., most of whom are now classed as teachers without diplomas, we should reduce very considerably the number without legal qualification. The holders of normal school diplomas were 406. As to salaries we find that male teachers with diplomas in elementary schools had an average of \$515, and female teachers \$184. In model schools and academies these averages for male and female teachers rise to \$729, and \$300, respectively.