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A REVIEW OF DR. MERCHANT'S REPORT ON THE BILINGUAL SCHOOLS OF ONTARIO

PREFACE.

In February last, after an enquiry extending over several months (November 2, 1911 to February 8, 1912) Dr. Merchant issued to the public his "**Report on the Bilingual Schools of Ontario**," in compliance with the instructions of the Provincial Government. The events which gave rise to this enquiry and report are too well known to be recorded here. The bilingual schools having been made the object of the most serious accusations in respect of their efficiency in the work of public instruction, the civil authority deemed it advisable to order this official and conclusive enquiry. It never occurred to any French-Canadian that an impartially conducted enquiry could possibly have any other issue than that of throwing light on the worth of our schools. Apart from the fact that certain conclusions contained in Dr. Merchant's report are open to material corrections, and that the general successes of our pupils might well have been more strongly dwelt upon, it remains clear, on the showing of the report itself, that, (1) our bilingual schools do not deserve the charges of inefficiency so lightly and so inconsistently levelled against