

ought to be reading the third book in English. As to other subjects, however, such as arithmetic, geography and history, they are supposed to be taught entirely in English. Such is the theory of teaching in the public bi-lingual schools of Ontario. According to this theory English is given the pre-eminence, and the French-Canadians of Ontario are complaining because their own language is subordinated and side-tracked. But what are the facts? The rules formulated by the Ontario Education Department are calculated to make English-speaking citizens of the French-Canadians, but the French-Canadian is satisfied with his own language, he has no desire to learn English, he is not anxious that his children should learn it and he takes very good care that the teacher of his children shall be French. The facts then with regard to teaching in the public bi-lingual schools of Eastern Ontario are as follows:

(1) Oral teaching of English to younger scholars is neglected. French-Canadian children in villages of Prescott and Russell, even lads of ten or twelve, can rarely understand, much less answer, simple questions in English addressed to them by the passer-by. They cannot understand the inspectors of the school.

(2) English is really taught in these schools as a dead language. Children learn to read it, to translate it into French, but are for the most part unable to speak it.

(3) The law of the Education Department that arithmetic, geography, etc., must be taught in English is in most schools a dead letter. It is impossible for a child, who has only a stumbling acquaintance with printed English, to receive instruction in that language from a French-born teacher in such an intricate subject as arithmetic.

The bi-lingual school in Ontario is a failure, and should be abolished. It must be admitted no person, guages and carry on successfully the work in all the grades of a public school. It is human nature for a French-born teacher who speaks English indifferently, to love his own language and to despise the other. If