

of observation and of reasoning as to cause, but it has cost them dearly, and these are the men who regret most that in their youth they did not have the guidance of a trained teacher. It would have been of great benefit in the practise of their art and would have imparted to their surroundings an interest that would have made their lives much more pleasant.

A question that is being constantly asked, and a question that is of vital interest in this young and agricultural country is, "Why does the boy leave the farm?" Various reasons are given and cures propounded, but I do not think that anything we could do would have such

a beneficial effect as to open his eyes to the fact that he is living in the midst of plenty and beauty, if he is prepared to make use of his opportunities. His calling would be clothed with a new dignity and value and he would not only cease to be envious of the boy who is shut up in the city from year to year, but learn to pity him. Only in this way can you stay this great exodus. Teach him to see that the farm may be made profitable, if he will bring intelligence to bear on his work; teach him to see some of the beauty and possibilities of his surroundings, and he will be more satisfied and crave less after the uncertain struggles of the town.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

Deliver not the tasks of might
To weakness, neither hide the ray
From those, not blind, who wait for day,
Though sitting girt with doubtful light.

That from Discussion's lips may fall
With Life, that working strongly, binds--
Set in all lights by many minds,
So close the interests of all.

"We must take a forward position in educational matters or else consent to be left hopelessly in the rear." These words were spoken by Mr. Whitney, the leader of the Opposition in the Ontario House of Assembly in concluding his speech on the Budget. The whole of his statement on the educational question, as it is at present, is given in another part of this issue. The statement, it seems to us, is fair, able and statesmanlike. We heartily congratulate Mr. Whitney on the important announcement he has made in the House and to the people of Ontario.

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE. — Frequently we meet the statement: "All the children of Ontario are educated in the Public Schools, except five per cent, who are found also in the High Schools." We have on more

than one occasion directed attention to this sweeping assertion. The ground for it is the following: The total registered attendance in the Public Schools of Ontario, as per Minister of Education's last report, just received, is 429,227; in the High Schools, on the same authority, it is 22,460. If we obtain the percentage that 22,460 is of 429,227, we get it to be 5.23. This is the origin of the misleading assertion, that only 5 of every 100 in the Public Schools ever attend a High School. In the table of the actuary, it is shown that of all persons born 73 per cent. reach the age of 5 years, the legal school age; 69 per cent. reach the age of 14 years, the usual age of admission to a High School, and 66 per cent. reach the age of 18 years, the age for leaving the High School.

Let us assume that every child born in Ontario was able to satisfy