

spent on education in Ontario has very slightly minimized this defect, because of the apathy of the people in taking advantage of existing legislation empowering them to introduce in some degree technical training.

Does our present system emphasize the importance of training a youth for commerce? We take this first because of the prevailing impression that we require no progress in this line. In reality right commercial training is a branch of Technical Education, if we believe that the distribution of commodities is as important as their production, and requires a special course of training just as much as the other. If we are to meet effectually the commercial competition of other countries we must have trained merchants as well as skilled mechanics. No country has shown a more striking instance of this than Germany, the aggressiveness of whose merchants in the distribution of the products of the skilled industrial army (created in 25 years by their combined system of technical education and commercial education), with equal success free trade Britain, as in high tariff America, and in being able to wrest from her competitors some of their principal markets, is distinctly traceable to the advantage of a specialized training of her population. If this be acknowledged would it not be well to study her methods, and adopt any features that can be grafted upon our own system that will make us more effective in production and distribution? The Commercial High Schools that train men for mercantile careers, teach history, geography, chemistry, modern languages, mathematics, book-keeping, commercial law, political economy. The Consular Report says: "The school neither aims nor hopes to replace actual experience, but it does aim and it does hope to build the boy up and out in such a manner as to enable him to use his eyes, ears and faculties in acquiring knowledge rapidly, to exercise good judgment and tact, to give satisfaction, and to go climbing upwards."

There are Technical Schools of various grades for almost every industry—weaving, knitting, soap-making, building, clock-making, brewing, tanning, dyeing, farming, plumbing, navigation, marine engineering.

The United States Consul reports: "If an industry languishes in Germany, immediately a commission enquires into the causes, and recommends remedial measures, among which is usually the advice to establish Technical or Industrial Schools devoted to the branch of business under consideration."

In discussing what system we shall adopt in Ontario we will assume a good elementary education as a basis; having obtained this, 14 years to be the age of applicants, candidates to elect whether the commercial or industrial course.

- (1) That Technical Education in order to be thoroughly successful should be part of the foundation of our general educational system, and elementary technology should