

tures. Beyond a doubt a good crusade should be preached, parents should be convinced of and be made acquainted with the growing needs of education. But, once more, I say that until we have exhausted every means at our disposal to increase school attendance, we are justified in rejecting the bill introduced by the honorable member for St. Lawrence.

PARENTS AND SCHOOLS.

I was born and I have lived in one of our modest country parts of the Province of Quebec. I remember my native village and the school where little children to which I went, I remember, as if it were but yesterday, the faces all my young class-mates; I remember also the houses from which they started every morning with joyful hearts to seek, near the teacher's desk, their share of learning and knowledge. I say to the honor of my province that I cannot remember a single father or mother who deliberately denied the benefits of education to any of their children. I know what life in the small towns of our province is, because I have lived there; I have lived in the metropolis; I have lived and hope to long live in the capital, and I say that nowhere have I found parents unnatural enough to keep their children from school without reason or without serious need. On the other hand, I have been in a