

crease paid to teachers through an increase in the teaching staff.

Dr. MacKay reports 240 sections without schools, an increase of 61 over the previous year. A considerable proportion of them, however, occur in more or less depopulated settlements. Salaries improved during the year, in many sections, but the scarcity of teachers continues owing to removal to the West or in the acceptance of more remunerative employments.

The total amount spent for education during the year was \$985,031. The number of pupils enrolled was 96,886 and the average daily attendance 55.7. The annual cost for each pupil enrolled was \$10.16.

The superintendent says: "The year shows a decided advance in nearly every respect except attendance. . . . New school buildings of improved design and equipment are going up in every quarter of the province; manual training instruction, school gardens and school libraries are advancing. . . . Fresh interest is being stimulated in thorough drill in the fundamental elements of a popular education."

Which Was Right.

There lived in Germany a little girl named Else. She had many brothers, and with one of them she used to play from morning to night.

There was one field of grain in which the children took a great interest. They watched its growth carefully, but, in spite of them, the sparrows would eat the seed.

"I am going to stay here all day in the field to frighten away the birds," said Else.

"I can do better," said William; "I shall make a scarecrow, and then we shall keep the birds away with no trouble to ourselves."

"My way is best," Else said. "My way is best," said her brother, stubbornly.

Else got a rattle and settled herself in the shade of some trees on the edge of the field. She rattled vigorously for a long time, and no bird dared come near. Then the warm air made her drowsy, and before she knew it she was fast asleep. What a fine feast the sparrows had then, to be sure!

William laughed at Else's efforts, and made his scarecrow. It was a terrible-looking creature.

"I'd like to see any bird dare come near that," he said, proudly. "Now we may play in peace."

Other things filled the children's minds, and it was a week before they went again to the field. There stood the fierce old scarecrow keeping guard, and—what do you think? A sparrow had built its nest in his coat pocket.—*Helen W. Banks, in The Outlook.*

April in Canadian History.

Just three hundred years ago Champlain and his band of explorers, weakened by disease and the rigours of a Canadian winter, were welcoming the return of spring to their dreary habitation on the Isle of St. Croix. Out of seventy-nine men, composing the first band of Europeans who wintered in New Brunswick, thirty-five had died and nearly half of the remainder were at the point of death. Champlain states that "the snows began on the 6th October," and that at the end of April the depth of snow was three or four feet, "lasting much longer, I suppose, than it would if the country were cultivated." This opinion seems to have been well founded when we compare his statements of the April of 1605 with our experience so far of that of 1905.

It was on April 20, 1534, that Cartier set sail from St. Malo, France, on his first voyage to Canada.

In April, 1616, Champlain returned to Quebec from the country of the Hurons after a winter spent among that tribe studying their language, and after having undertaken an unsuccessful campaign against their enemies, the Iroquois.

On Easter Sunday, April 17, 1645, Fort La Tour in St. John harbor was captured by Chevalier d'Aunay and the unfortunate Lady La Tour made prisoner.

April, 1760, witnessed the capitulation of Montreal to the English and the completion of the conquest of Canada.

On the 29th of April, 1792, Capt. George Vancouver, commanding H. M. S. "Discovery," entered the straits of Juan de Fuca. George III was then on the throne of England.

York (Toronto) was captured by the United States troops, April, 1813.

April 25, 1849, riots occurred in Montreal over the passage of the Rebellion Losses bill, and the parliamentary library was burned.

In April, 1858, gold was discovered in British Columbia and immigrants began to pour into that country.

Hon. T. d'Arcy McGee was assassinated at Ottawa, April 7, 1868.

In April, 1881, the Royal Society of Canada was founded.

During the Rebellion in the Northwest in 1885, the massacre of Frog Lake took place April 2nd; on the 14th April Fort Pitt was abandoned, and on