

ernment scheme contemplates the appointment of Drill-Sergeants who are to spend a month every year at those schools which organize companies under the Regulations. It is certainly too much to expect School Boards which have already provided drill instructors to discard them, when, except the possession of arms and accoutrements, the new scheme would confer no benefit on them, but on the contrary would put them to serious loss and inconvenience. This provision in the Regulations might suit localities unable to procure a competent instructor, but when we consider that, to obtain the arms, etc., there must be at least 40 members in the company, there seem to be few places able to come under the operation of the Order which might not also provide suitable Drill-Sergeants.

If there were nothing else to shipwreck the scheme, the clause which makes it imperative for members of the companies to possess uniform clothing, would be enough to do it. The uniforms would have to be supplied by the members themselves, or by the School Boards. A sufficient number of the former might be found in a few cities and towns rich enough to do so, but the latter feel the ordinary expenses heavy enough without launching into what the much suffering rate-payer would certainly regard as an unwarranted expenditure. This part of the scheme should be dropped; or, better, the Department itself should supply cadet companies with clothing as they now do the volunteers. The advantages gained to the country at large would far more than counterbalance the expense. Whatever benefits would result from the success of this movement would be shared in by the Dominion, and it is therefore only proper that the cost should be defrayed out of the public exchequer. The Instructors in our High Schools, who have already proved themselves competent, should be confirmed in their places, and the students under their charge subjected to such inspection as might be deemed advisable. Places unable to provide suitable instructors, might, if desired, be supplied with them by the Militia Department.

Some ten or twelve years ago a still better plan was in existence, though for a variety of reasons it was then not so successful as we believe it would now prove. The sum of \$50 a year was granted to those schools which maintained at least 20 pupils well drilled under a competent instructor. A grant of a small sum like this, or indeed, a proper supply of arms and accoutrements and uniforms, would cause the establishment of many a school company throughout the Province, and in the end turn out to be more useful, and less expensive, than the present well-meant but impracticable scheme.

As every one is impressed with the necessity for some such provision as the Hon. Mr. Masson aims at, we are sure he will have the support of every Canadian in the carrying out of any system of military instruction suited to our condition and requirements.

HIGH SCHOOL REGISTERS AND BLANK FORMS, ETC.

A good deal of unnecessary trouble is often caused to masters by the regulations of the Department in reference to registers.

These are at present supplied to High Schools by the Public School inspectors. Is there any good reason why they should not be sent direct to the High School Board or the High School master? Delays of weeks have sometimes been caused by adherence to this unnecessary regulation. Let us have a little common sense infused into the Depository management. The less the friction, the pleasanter will it be for every one.

In the matter of blank forms for half-yearly returns of attendance, the same economy in little things, for which the Department has been distinguishing itself of late, also crops out. An application for enough forms to contain the attendance of a large school has been met with a refusal and the advice to rule forms similar to the one sent. The matter is certainly of no great moment, but it is a mode of saving the public funds which the public can afford to dispense with.