

no reason for us opposing the introduction of such a feature into the schools ; this is along the line of our interests." It seems to me that this is the conviction that all must arrive at who fully understand the working of these schools. The fear was expressed that, in the case of strikes, boys, thus partly trained, might be made to take the place of regular workmen. I have never known of an instance in which such a thing occurred, and, from the nature of the case, it must evidently prove extremely unsatisfactory, if not impossible, to substitute Manual Training boys for mechanics of any trades. When they enter any of the trades, they must naturally do so in the legitimate way as apprentices, but they enter well equipped and qualified to rise rapidly to the front rank ; and I am glad to say that the record of the pupils that have passed through the various Manual Training schools, as far as it has been possible to collect such records, shows that a very large proportion of them are successful in speedily reaching a front rank. Manual Training schools lead very naturally to the schools of Technology and Engineering, so that much of the work done in the former is perhaps lost sight of, being absorbed in the latter. I can, however, conceive no essential ground of rivalry between Manual Training and the Trades Unions. In as far as it is calculated in the future to fill the ranks of mechanics with better educated and more skillful men it is a natural benefit and parents should naturally desire to see their sons follow in their footsteps under better auspices, and better equipped for work, than they themselves were ; and if the younger generation rises more rapidly than did the old, this is surely no cause for opposition but rather is it the greatest reason for making such advantages available as widely as possible.

Strictly technical schools are within

the reach only of a limited number. The Public and High Schools are the schools of the people. The education of 80 per cent. of our youth ends there. Let no means, therefore, be spared to make these schools effective. With all that has been done for them, especially in recent years, they still lack the practical element indispensable to a well rounded education. I would as naturally expect to see physicians and lawyers agitating for the removal of classics and history from the course, as to find the representatives of labor opposing the adoption of Manual Training with a full understanding of its character and aims. One of the leading Manual Training schools in the United States was established first through the generosity and interest of private individuals. As soon, however, as the city in which it was located had an opportunity of seeing fully its character and the results following its work, the people enthusiastically assumed the responsibility for its management and it has since been carried on and developed with an energy that shows it is one of the city's most highly prized institutions. Let Manual training be introduced into our schools as far as practicable and I believe it will win for itself the same enthusiastic support that it has all over the United States, and no class will be so greatly benefited by it as the representatives of labor whose mistaken opposition has been a hindrance hitherto. We as Canadians cannot afford to sacrifice any advantage in the universal competition of the present day. Our sons must be prepared to enter the great race in every department, and with every people. We have prided ourselves, and with justice too, on the superiority of our educational institutions. Let us not forget that this is an intensely practical age and let our secondary education have the perfection that is necessary to adapt it fully to our people's practical wants.