

could not go to school. Mr. Turcotte says that out of a total of 5,076 children between 7 and 14 years of age, 513 did not attend the primary schools. If one considers that among these children there are a good many at college or at special schools, it will be admitted that the children between 7 and 14 years who do not attend school are an almost negligible quantity.

"In Mr. Levesque's division the average attendance has increased by 215 which, as he says, shows that the people are becoming more and more alive to the importance of education.

"In connection with the average attendance at school, seven inspectors: Messrs. Bergeron, Curot, Boily, Hébert, L. A. Guay, Belcourt and Lefebvre, estimate it at 80 % and over according to the roll-call; two, Messrs. Turcotte and Beaumier at 79% and a fraction; seven, Messrs. Roy, L. P. Goulet, Primeau, Levesque, Tanguay, Longtin and J. O. Goulet, at from 75% to 79%.

"But the strongest proof that real progress has been made in connection with the duration of attendance at school is the considerable number of applications made to the Catholic Committee to have schools made model schools and academies. The inspectors' bulletins sent in during the inspection in the spring of 1912, alone show that 33 elementary schools deserved to be classed as model schools and that 34 of the latter were entitled to be called academies."

Mr. Speaker, these data and statistics, taken from official sources, show that we can attain the end we have in view without having recourse to harsh mea-