

to be taken as a criterion, has been crowned with success, and it has been not a little through his instrumentality and persistent advocacy that a movement has been inaugurated in favor of the Quebec elementary schools. This movement has been fairly launched, and in the platform there are three planks, as the politician on the other side of the line would say, the first being the provision for a better system of training for elementary teachers; the second, a provision for an increase in the grants; and the third a more direct system of supervision by the inspectors. Dr. Harper is convener of a committee on professional training; Mr. Parmelee has succeeded in getting the convention to pass unanimously a motion which may lead to the securing of the second; while Mr. Hewton, the retiring President of the Association, has thrown out a broad hint that the third is a necessity, by moving in favour of the appointment of an inspector general. With these three things secured, the persistent endeavors of the *Montreal Herald* in the direction of better schools for the country districts in Quebec are sure to be crowned with success. Should this happy issue of events be brought about, the whole Province will be benefited, while the man who thinks that since so much has been done in the past, further progress will not be hastened, will stand in a minority of one.

It is impossible for us to give a detailed account of the proceedings of this important meeting. Among the reports presented none was listened to with so much interest as the report from Mr. Truell, the representative of the Teachers on the Council of Public Instruction. That gentleman has intensified his popularity by the careful attention he has given to the interests of his fellow-teachers during his tenure of office, and it was no surprise to outsiders that they

should give him a third term. It is said that none will be better pleased with this result than the Protestant Committee itself which has always been willing to listen to Mr. Truell's advice and act upon his suggestions. It is to be hoped that the first act of the committee at its next meeting will be to place Mr. Truell on the text-book sub-committee, where there seems to be work for others as well as for him, if the Council would save itself from being misunderstood by the public. Mr. Truell is also deeply interested in elementary education, and read an excellent paper on the subject, in which he pointed out in emphatic language the necessity for change, and to make his emphasis even more emphatic, Mr. McQuat read a second paper, while the President's masterly address was taken up for the most part with the same topic. There was no uncertain sound in Mr. Hewton's address. In it there was no mincing of matters, no pleading in favor of what had been done, but an unmistakable outcry for what ought to be done. What matters it who inaugurates, as long as the movement inaugurated is a right movement? The question of office-holding ought not to mix itself up or interfere with the rightful demands of the people. "The little red school-house on the plain" has to be improved, and this improvement has to be brought about in another way than by the mere framing of theoretical regulations. So thinks Mr. Hewton, and when he declared that the expenditure on primary education had decreased by \$14,000 within the last thirty years, his audience was with him to a man in his further arguments.

Among the topics discussed at the convention may be mentioned, "Form and Color," by Miss Hicks, of Boston; "The Teaching of Botany," by Miss Carrie M. Derrick, M. A., of Montreal; and "Moral Training," by Dr. Har-