

years. This is because the Protestant rural population in Quebec ~~is~~^{is} decreasing rapidly. The number of pupils at many rural schools is so small that the ratepayers cannot contribute enough to support a teacher. Consolidation of schools may help, and delay the movement, but the signs are so plain that we must look forward to the not very distant future when the isolated English-speaking communities will disappear in rural Quebec. The decrease in numbers of rural schools from 1912 has been 149. (733 schools in 1912 - 584 in 1921/22). In certain districts the differences are more pronounced than the general figures, here are a few examples:-

	1891-92		1921-22	
	Schools	Pupils	Schools	Pupils
Compton Co.	102	2484	45	634
Mississquoie	66	1625	26	456
Richmond	42	788	24	343
Shefford	44	937	14	210
Stanstead	76	1725	41	658
Brome	79	1819	48	930

Even more pathetic are the results of an enquiry as to how many boys were in the eleventh, or last, grade of the academy; how many passed their school leaving examination and what became of them after they had left school; and how many were registered this year in this particular grade.

Out of 31 schools outside of Montreal:-

83 boys took their school leaving examinations in June, 1923.

57 boys passed

39 boys went on to college or university