

money, but it does not represent the cost per head of the children who have been to school; it represents the cost per head of the children who registered on the first day or the second day of school. If we take the number of children in our province in the last three years of the course, we shall find that the cost leaps up to over \$400 per head.

Now let us just glance at the universities. They do not interest me, but when I am discussing this question I may refer to them, because somebody might say, "The pupils leave school at an early age, but they go to the universities." I do not think the question of the universities applies to the matter which we have under consideration; because we are concerned with the education of the masses, of the boys and girls of poor families, and with absolutely nothing else. However, we have in our Catholic universities 2,352 pupils. These figures are for the year 1916-17. There were 940 Protestants attending universities—very much fewer than in 1913-14. In 1913-14 there were 1,634 of our boys in attendance, but a larger percentage of the boys from our institutions went to the war than from the others. That accounts for the difference in the figures. Of those attending universities you find 455 Catholics studying theology, which is a good study; I like it. You find among the Protestants only five who have consented to study theology. Well, that demonstrates that we do not need theology, whether we are sufficiently inspired by it or not. I would not like to reflect on my honourable friends of the other nationality in my province by saying that they require a greater attendance than we do, but evidently there is some reason. In law there are 250 French or Catholics, as they are called, and 52 Protestants. In medicine, 608 Catholics, 2,160 Protestants. In arts, 94 Catholics and 440 Protestants. In science 169 Catholics and 191 Protestants. So much for the universities.

We have also the higher commercial studies. Schools have been established in the last few years at Montreal and Quebec, and there are some smaller ones in Sherbrooke and St. Hyacinthe, and I think, one or two other places. The main school is, however, the High Commercial School at Montreal. I do not know the cost of the building; it is a very fine one. The school was opened in the presence of all the bishops, deacons and other representatives of religious orders, whether they happened to be Protestants or others. I find that the attendance has not been very great in the last year. There were thirty-six at-

Hon. Mr. POPE.

tending the school. It received a grant from the province of some \$50,000, the cost per head being nearly \$1,100 per pupil in attendance. There is something the matter.

Then we have technical schools, which have had a larger attendance. They run both day and night, I think. Montreal grants aid to the extent of \$40,000 a year, and the Government grants a similar amount, making \$80,000 a year. The building cost \$636,187; the interest on that would be \$31,000, making a total cost, irrespective of repairs, of \$111,000 a year. The cost per head of those who attended was \$133. In Quebec city the government gives a grant of \$30,000; the city, \$20,000; interest on the cost of the building is \$20,600, making a total of \$72,600, a cost per head of \$301.

I think these figures are quite sufficient to satisfy anybody that there is no lack of opportunity for education. Nobody can cast any reflections on the province of Quebec in that regard. All kinds of schools are available, but for some reason or other, after the money is expended the scholars are not found at the schools.

It has been said, and truly said, if you like, so far as the application of the law goes as to the recognition of the English-speaking or Protestant schools, that we have our full measure of justice, as contemplated by the theory of fifty years ago. But that theory is not meeting the situation of to-day. Since that time a very large percentage of the businesses have been incorporated. What is called a neutral panel in our province has been formed. A very large percentage—I would almost be inclined to say 90 per cent, but let that be as it may,—a very large percentage of the capital invested in those organizations is the money of English-speaking or Protestant people. The taxes for school purposes derived from those corporations in each municipality are divided according to the number of scholars. If the majority of the scholars are Catholic, the majority of that money goes to the Catholic schools, and vice versa, no regard being paid to the fact that money was invested by English-speaking people. The result is that in our province, in the midst of great investments of English-speaking capital we have English-speaking schools that are starving for money. Only this year a delegation of very responsible people from the city of Montreal went to Quebec to ask the provincial Government to increase their grant for Protestant schools in Montreal. In the country parts of the province, very many of the farms are being sold to French