

levels. The publishers were not compelled to live up to the terms of their contracts by proper Departmental supervision. Economy of production was rendered impossible by a multiplicity of authorized books. The cost of writing books, drawing books, scribbling and exercise books was excessive.

### AN ESTIMATE OF UNDUE PROFITS.

The Commissioners made an estimate of the probable cost of the following list of public school text-books based on expert evidence.

|                                                  | Retail Price                                       |     |      |
|--------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|-----|------|
| Public School Arithmetic.....                    | 11c., not including cost of plates and royalties.. |     | 25c. |
| Public School Geography.....                     | 21 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub> c. do.              | do. | 75c. |
| Morang's Modern Geography.....                   | 23c <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub> . do.              | do. | 75c. |
| Our Home and Its Surroundings (Morang).....      | 10 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> c. do.              | do. | 40c. |
| Rose's Public School Geography.....              | 21 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub> c. do.              | do. | 75c. |
| Public School Grammar.....                       | 9 2-5c. do.                                        | do. | 25c. |
| Morang's Modern English Grammar.....             | 9 4-5c. do.                                        | do. | 25c. |
| Public School History of England and Canada..... | 11 9-10c. do.                                      | do. | 30c. |
| History of Dominion of Canada.....               | 16 2-5c. do.                                       | do. | 50c. |
| Duncan's Story of the Canadian People.....       | 21c. do.                                           | do. | 50c. |
| Weaver's Canadian History.....                   | 13 3-10c. do.                                      | do. | 50c. |
| Public School Physiology and Temperance.....     | 9 4-5c. do.                                        | do. | 25c. |
| Public School Bookkeeping.....                   | 9c. do.                                            | do. | 25c. |
| Public School Algebra and Euclid.....            | 9c. do.                                            | do. | 25c. |
| Public School Agriculture.....                   | 11c. do.                                           | do. | 30c. |
| Public School Domestic Science.....              | 9 1-5c. do.                                        | do. | 50c. |
| Ahn's First German Book.....                     | 7 6-10c. do.                                       | do. | 25c. |
| Ahn's Second German Book.....                    | 14 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> c. do.              | do. | 45c. |

Allowing a reasonable advance on these estimated cost prices for the payment of royalties and the sums spent in producing the original plates, the margin of profit was altogether too large.

### HIGH SCHOOL TEXT-BOOK PRICES TOO HIGH.

The Commissioners also declared: "The price of nearly all High School books is too high, and could be generally reduced and still allow a fair profit to the publisher."