

with enthusiasm. They were indeed the chief promoters of the movement and they found the work full of interest.

The teacher is able to give essential details as to age, occupation of parents, size of house, regularity of attendance, height and weight. But only those who have taught can realise the multitudinous duties of the teacher. And the Education Department is always adding to them but never paying for the addition. Often, too, their classes are large and over-crowded, and so is the programme of studies. And all this means that we must be careful not to add to the burdens of the teacher. Great consideration should be given before he or she is asked to undertake new duties, and these, if at all possible, should be provided for without lengthening school hours or giving the teacher extra work. Clerical assistance from the School Nurse may be a necessity.

As so much of the teacher's time is lost at present on account of many defects that Medical Inspection of Schools will remedy or remove, it is evident that any time given to assist the School Medical Officer or School Nurse will probably be repaid twice over. This remark, indeed, applies to every detail of Medical Inspection of Schools. The cost of each day's teaching of every child is considerable. This money is thrown away every time the child is absent and absence often entails other expenses. If the Medical Inspection of Schools saves, on the average, one school day to every school child per annum, it probably will more than pay for itself, as it were. This should appeal to any country which is governed for the people by the people.

(1) EXCERPTS FROM "THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS ACT."

1 Edw. VII., c. 39, s. 1, (1909).

*Duties of Trustees.*

"To provide and pay for such dental and medical inspection of the pupils, as the Regulations may prescribe, or, in the absence of Regulations, as the Board may deem proper."

*Duties of Inspectors.*

"To report to the Medical Health Officer of the municipality any case in which the school buildings or premises, are found to be in an unsanitary condition."

"To discharge such other duties as are required by the Minister of Education or Regulations."