

accounting, however, the Province of Quebec found that there was a shortage of several hundred thousand dollars in the amount which they expected the collection of arrears would have netted, and Quebec insisted that it be made up. The case was finally put in the hands of arbitrators. The only excuse which Ontario offered really, was to the effect that she had remitted several of the arrears in payment because the land was not worth what had been asked for it, and because of hard times. The arbitrators, however, held that the province was responsible for the shortage.

For over twenty years Mr. G. L. Masten has been principal of Coaticook, and for as many years a teacher in the province of Quebec. His success as a teacher has been very marked, no school in which he has labored failing to be raised in rank—Coaticook for instance from a very low state to be one of the leading academies of the province. Mr. Masten has just announced his withdrawal from active service to enjoy the ease that comes from a long and well-spent service in the interests of the public. Mr. Masten has for years been a member of the Protestant Committee of the Council of Public Instruction for Quebec.

It is to be regretted that the National Educational Association of the United States is not to hold its meetings in Montreal next year. The Committee appointed a year ago by the Quebec Association of Teachers did all in their power to mature the design of having such an influential gathering held in the metropolis of Canada, but the corporation of that city has not seen its way to extend the invitation, chiefly, it seems, on the plea of ex-

pense. The committee consisted of Dr. Robins, and Messrs. Rexford and Astley, all of Montreal.

Professor Robertson, Dominion Agricultural Commissioner, who takes a keen personal interest in the subject of technical education, recently announced to the Ottawa School Board that Sir W. C. McDonald had offered to bear the cost for three years of a manual training class in one centre in each of the provinces in the Dominion. Sir William has already placed the funds for the experiment under Professor Robertson's control, and the latter has engaged competent men to superintend the experiment, the chief being a Scotchman who has been prominent in the establishing of technical schools in Britain, and who for their purpose made a study of the manual training schools of Sweden and Germany. The plan is to utilize the public schools by taking one city or town in each province in which to establish regular classes on one or two days a week in which scholars between nine and thirteen years of age shall spend a portion of the day in actual work with tools. This will be supplemented wherever desired by more advanced special evening classes in manual training and technical instruction.

The Hon. H. T. Duffy, Commissioner of Public Works for the Province of Quebec, in his address before the teachers of that province, is reported to have said :

"A question had often been raised about how far the state should intervene in education, but it was his conviction that schools and colleges generally grew as well if they were left to work out their own destiny. It was hard to carry on education in this province, where one small