

electioneering for two or three years previously felt that some great catastrophe was at hand. The opposition front bench had not the vaguest idea of the extraordinary feeling against Chinese labour as imagined in England, and the Government greatly overrated the desire in the country to change the educational system. It has been very difficult to determine the exact amount of support given to Tariff Reform, for the quiet supporters of the movement kept away from the meetings and the active opponents attended them. It is, however, perfectly certain that the result of the General Election affords no guide to the feeling of the country on the subject.

Again it is obvious that the Government now have no idea of the intensity of the feeling against the present Education Act, and it is doubtful if the Central Office realises it, but those who have travelled about, speaking in towns and villages, must have been astonished at the indignation aroused among even those who usually take no interest in political questions.

One of the chief objects, therefore, of the Agents and Sub-agents is *to collect information* upon which the General Council can deliberate and confer with the leader.

With such information the leader could with safety and discretion draw up a plan of campaign. The National Union would then instruct its Speakers, Inspectors and Agents what it was, and they would go forth and advocate it in the highways and byways. Suitable literature created from facts, and dealing with the points of difficulty discovered would also be distributed at the same time by the Agents and Sub-agents. In this way the party would learn what its leader expected from it.

At present Agents are left to discover for themselves, if they can, what their leader wishes, and the voluntary speakers, who are so anxious to talk on political matters, frequently give their own views based often on a very slight acquaintance with the subject. To explain the Tariff Reform question requires a deep knowledge of history and economy, as well as a strong