was born; 3rd, When he began to teach; 4th, What Church he was connected with; 5th, The section, township, and county where he commenced teaching; 6th, The kind of certificates he had held; 7th, The several places in which he had taught; 8th, How many years he had taught in the Province, and had subscribed to the Fund; 9th, That he had become unable to teach any longer; 10th, That he had ceased teaching in such a section, giving the date, and had not since taught; 11th, "That he, in terms of the Act, having become incapacitated by infirmity from further service as a Public School Teacher, respectfully applies for a pension from the Superannuated Public School Teachers' Fund."

Objectors to this form of application seemed to think it resembled one of the Apocalyptic animals, which is described as having its sting in its tail. They disliked the acknowledgement of "incapacity by infirmity."

Accompanying this application, too, the teacher had to forward certificates giving satisfactory evidence of character, length of time teaching, and medical testimony that the applicant was unable to pursue his profession any longer. Probably the strongest of all the objections urged against supporting the Fund, and the one, to my mind, having the best grounds, was the extreme uncertainty as to how much the allowance for a given year would be. Sometimes, I believe, it was not more than at the rate of $1, and for a number of years was less than $2 *per annum* for each year's service.

When it is remembered, that for a good many years, the *maximum* payment was fixed by statute at $6 *per annum*, it is not hard to see how much cause for dissatisfaction was engendered when the pension fell to $2, and even less, for every year's service as a Public School teacher.

In 1869 or 1870, the law was modified so as to make it compulsory on every male teacher to pay yearly $4, but so far as the ladies were concerned, support of the fund was left still optional. Shortly after this, the Legislative apportionment was increased so much that the pension was paid to third-class teachers at the maximum rate of $6, those holding first and second-class certificates receiving one dollar additional. Ever since the new departure, teachers, as a sense of security regarding their prospective allowance increased, have kept falling into line, so that, to-day, those whom we may term the superannuation dissentients are fewer in number than were the supporters of the scheme twenty years ago. And just here, it will not be out of place to pay tribute to the Hon. Mr. Crooks for the very laudable exertions put forth by him on the floor of the Legislative Assembly during the past few years, in getting such an increased appropriation voted as secures to pensioners the highest possible payment under the existing condition of affairs.

Having traced briefly the history of the Fund from its inception until within the present twelvemonth, let us look at the aspect of the case to-day, and ask ourselves the popular query: "What are we going to do about it?"

It has ceased to be an open secret that many of the people's representatives in Provincial Parliament assembled have taken upon themselves to vote the Fund a fraud, although they don't just call it by that name, and would, if they could, vote a cipher for its support. Six months ago, in this city too, I was informed on what I am sure every one here to-day would consider good authority, that the Minister of Education himself had the whole scheme under consideration, and proposed at next meeting of Parliament to introduce a number of radical changes. If we have anything *reasonable* to suggest, now is the time; and I say "reasonable" because I am afraid there is a tendency on the part