

nothing and that parents are nobly doing their duty. The Government's contribution to the improvement of education increases yearly : the appropriation for education which is now \$1,334,577 10, was only \$389,550.76 in 1896. The school taxes which, in 1897, brought in only \$1,988,000.00, yielded \$3,702,000.00, in 1911. In 1897, the value of our school houses was \$1,300,000.00, it is now \$30,000,000.00. In 1906, there were 19 counties where the female teachers' average salaries were under \$100.00 ; there are only two now, and the number of rural school municipalities not paying salaries of at least \$100.00 to each of their teachers was only 100 in the year 1910-11 while it was 268 in 1908-1909. The Province of Quebec asleep ! Why it excels its sister provinces as regards classical education through its seminaries and colleges. The Province of Quebec backward ! Mr. Speaker, one must not know it to criticize it so unfairly. No, while still far from the goal which we must strive to attain, we can say that our educational system is at least on a par with those of the other provinces. What we have unfortunately in our midst and what the others have not ; what we have too much of and what we hope they will never have, is professional disparagers who think they are doing their province and their race a service by writing the most villainous calumnies against them.