

With all possible respect to Dr. Merchant, we are constrained to reply that this assertion shows an evident ignorance of the facts. Have not all French Canadian professional men, all French Canadians of note, throughout the country, since the conquest, who have learned English in schools or colleges where English was only a class-subject, gained, generally speaking, a suitable knowledge of the English language? Of the English who have come out of public schools or **Collegiates**, out of **High Schools** or even Universities, how many are the equals, in the matter of a command of English, of Sir Wilfrid Laurier, Messrs. Monk, Belcourt, Landry, etc., etc.? Is there not a nice little scheme of anglicization lurking (and not too well hidden) in all this?

VIII. AN INSULT TO OUR TEACHERS.

Doubtless teachers with exceptional training and with special gifts for teaching language can, by an extended use of the direct method of teaching, when time is at their disposal, lead pupils through a course in English which will in the end give them a sufficiently comprehensive training in conversation, composition, and reading. This work is not being done in any of the English-French schools. Teachers with the requisite qualifications are not available, nor is it likely, considering all the conditions, that it will ever be possible to secure them for this service.⁵³

We repudiate this insult cast in the face of male and female teachers whose devotion is literally in-

⁵³Dr. Merchant's Report, p. 75.

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