

ber of pupils in any reader is found in the Third Reader; more than in the Second, by 5,233. The number of continuation classes is given as 431, but the attendance in these classes is not given. Why?

The attendance at our Secondary Schools during the year 1900 is less by 737 than in 1899. This to us is unsatisfactory, for the higher life of the province is very largely dependent upon the Secondary Schools of the province. Therefore, every symptom connected with them should be most carefully considered.

Does the programme of study for the public school need revision? We are constantly being met with such statements as these: My child is not going to college, and therefore, he need not waste his time on such as &c, &c, or my boy is preparing for college, and therefore I want him to give all the time he can to learn only such branches as will fit him for his college course. The source of all this divergence of view, is the belief that the course of study best adapted to prepare a pupil for the course of study at college is not the best adapted for the general affairs of life. This is the case not only as regards the college, but even as regards the high school.

When the present programme of study for the public schools was adopted, some years ago, the opinion prevailed that the subjects of study leading to a course at college were the best also to prepare for performing the duties of a citizen, though he should never have opportunity of entering college. Is this the opinion now? Parents who wished their sons to

have the advantage of a college career objected mostly to such branches of study as bookkeeping, drawing and science, as then taught. We may now eliminate science; for the science branches of learning have become so important, and especially so in a new country like Canada with its illimitable resources of all kinds of minerals, that nature studies are very much sought after in all our schools. For the same reason, drawing must be withdrawn, on the ground that it is necessary in the study of science. Quite recently in Ontario the University of Toronto has organized a department of Commerce in which bookkeeping, of course, appears. From the above it is manifest that the objections from the parents' side have all been removed by extension of studies at the colleges.

How does the case stand as between the public school and the high school? We know of no subject which per se, is a public school subject for study, and not a high school subject also. If we have made a mistake in this we shall be glad to be corrected. Therefore we hold strongly the opinion that pupils should enter the high school as soon as they can be prepared for entrance. In many ways boys and girls can benefit by attendance at the high school even if they never attend a college. Not only the children lose by being restricted to the public schools, but the whole country suffers an immense loss by such short sighted policy. These things, we write from the most intimate personal knowledge of what we are writing and earnestly beg our fellow