

Education Department Mr. A. Stuart, barrister, of Glencoe, was instructed to make an inquiry, and did so. Grant declined to assist in the inquiry, but admitted the charge, and on receipt of the report of the commissioner the department cancelled the former's matriculation certificate and notified the Law Society of the facts.

A Reduction Urged.

Representatives of various life insurance companies doing business in Ontario waited upon Hon. R. Harcourt a second time this morning and urged a reduction in the tax which is to be imposed upon this class of companies. The deputation consisted of Messrs. A. Bruce, Canada Life; J. K. Macdonald, Confederation Life; George Weggenast, Ontario Mutual; Ira B. Thayer, Travellers'; Charles Hunter, Standard; H. Sutherland, Temperance & General, and Thomas Hilliard, Dominion. It was pointed out by the speakers on behalf of the deputation that the taxation levied on the basis of 1 per cent. on the gross premiums was in some cases four times and in other cases nearly double that announced in the press. It was asserted that the rate of interest which life companies were able to earn on their funds was decreasing, and that in all probability the Dominion Government would require them shortly to reserve their funds at a much lower interest, which would necessitate a great augmentation of the amount put by for the protection of the public. The contention was also set up that life companies were handicapped as compared with fire companies by reason of the fact that their contracts had a long time to run and could not be varied. Finally it was argued that the money put by for the policyholders belonged to them in the same way as did deposits in the banks to depositors. They were the savings of men paid out in small sums for the protection of their families, and, therefore, should not be subject to a tax any more than moneys in the savings banks. Hon. Mr. Harcourt promised that the representations made would be seriously considered.

American Tourists Coming.

Chief Game Warden Tinsley received a letter from Passenger Agent Usher of the C. P. R., stating that in consequence of the exhibit made by the C.P.R. at the Sporting Exhibition at Madison Square Garden, New York, many American tourists had announced their intention of going into the Lake Temiscamingue district this summer.

Appointment at Central Prison.

Mr. Darley, an employee at the Central Prison, has been appointed to superintend the manufacture of binder twine and cordage at the prison at a salary of \$1,500 per annum. The salary is to be paid partly by the Government and partly by the contractors. A fine quality of manilla is being turned out at the Central Prison now, and machinery has been installed for the manufacture of cordage one inch in diameter. Other machinery is expected in a few days which will enable cordage two inches in diameter to be turned out.

A report has been received at the Agricultural Department from Mr. P. O'Byrne, Ontario agent at Liverpool, that as a result of the circulation of the pamphlets on northern Ontario, a large number of special enquiries respecting the Wabigoon district have been received. Mr. O'Byrne also reports that before the representative of the Ontario Tobacco Growers' Association left for home he disposed of all his samples to a large tobacco firm in London, with whom he made arrangements to send an expert to Ontario to inspect the tobacco in bulk, and to instruct the growers as to the proper mode of preparing and packing it for the English market. The publicity given to the production of tobacco in Ontario has, Mr. O'Byrne reports, resulted in creating a great deal of interest among tobacco manufacturers and merchants in the old country, and many enquiries have been received at his office upon the matter. If proper steps are taken to prepare and pack the tobacco in such a way as to meet the requirements of the English trade there seems good reason to believe that a profitable market could be found in the mother country for all the surplus crop the Ontario farmers can produce.

A Smallpox Claim.

Ald. Crane, Chairman of the local Board of Health, this morning interviewed Dr. Bryce in reference to the city's claim against the Provincial board, to be recouped for the expense incurred by the recent outbreak of smallpox.

High School Curriculum.

Mr. Ross' bill to improve the laws respecting High Schools has been printed and distributed. The bill provides for a new curriculum in the High Schools as follows:—

10.—(1) In every High School, subject to the conditions in subsection 2 hereinafter set forth and subject to the regulations of the Education Department, instruction shall be given in the following courses of study:—(1) A general course consisting of advanced instruction in the ordinary branches of an English education. (2) A commercial course consisting of bookkeeping and commercial transactions, business forms and usages. Stenography and typewriting may be taken at the option of the trustees. (3) A science course consisting of the elements of physics and chemistry in their relation to the productive industries of the Province. (4) A course in agriculture consisting of the chemistry of the soil, the botany of the farm and garden, entomology and the elements of geology and mineralogy and (5) an artizan course, consisting of freehand, model and mechanical drawing and decorative designs. (6) A teacher's course, consisting of such subjects not included in the preceding courses as may be prescribed by the Education Department for teachers' non-professional certificates. (7) A matriculation course, consisting of such subjects as may be prescribed for matriculation into the University of Toronto.