

ago. "Wherein lies the evil?" asked Dr. McQueen. "We are making millionaire manufacturers," he said. "There should be a better form of co-operation."

Lack of Efficiency.

The Education Department, continued Dr. McQueen, had increased its administrative offices with new positions costing over \$17,000 without the slightest corresponding increase in efficiency. "There is too much concentration in the city of Toronto in the Department of Education with regard to the affairs of the public schools," continued Dr. McQueen. The pupils were asked to come up to a standard, and yet the schools were equipped with unqualified teachers—or as the department puts it, permit teachers. "We have too many regulations which do not apply to the public schools. It would not be idolatry to worship these regulations, for they do not apply to anything in the heavens above, the earth beneath or the waters under the earth." (Laughter.) The curriculum is too cumbersome, and the subjects are beyond the mastery of eighty-five or ninety per cent. of the pupils," Dr. McQueen added. "The boys and girls are being asked to study too much."

Public Health.

Characterizing the annual appropriation of \$40,000 for public health as "skimpy," Dr. McQueen went on to criticize the action of the Government in spending more money every year in the promotion of the live stock industry than in the conservation of human life. He commended Dr. Forbes Godfrey (West York) for his introduction of the measure to prohibit the marriage of idiots, and declared that "the day is coming when the Government of the Province of Ontario—as well as some of the States of the Union—will have to turn attention to such a question as that."

Fight Against Tuberculosis.

Pointing out the effect of the ravages of tuberculosis, Dr. McQueen said the mortality last year in Ontario from tuberculosis was 1,497, which represented a mortality rate of eighty-seven and one-half per cent. of reported cases, as against a mortality of eight and one-half per cent. in other diseases. He instanced one village which, through lack of regulation, had not been without chronic tuberculosis for many years. Infectious diseases were quarantined and isolated, and no matter what considerations were involved tuberculosis should be similarly treated.

Continuing, Dr. McQueen advocated compulsory notification in the case of tuberculosis, and the establishment of sanitarium in every county, the cost of which should be charged to the municipalities.

Admitting that the Provincial Board of Health was doing the best work that could be expected of such a body, he urged the Government to remedy the system and appoint County Health Officers and Sanitary Inspectors in Municipalities. In conclusion he urged the Government to "place upon the statutes such enactments that shall make the citizenship of this Province the central unit, around which will be clustered a noble Canadian confederacy."

Give Municipalities New Power.

Mr. R. J. McCormick (East Lambton) was also severe on the educational policy of the Government. He censured the Minister of Education for closing the Model schools, and declared that children were being sent out for education every day with incompetent teachers to instruct them. He objected to the encroachment of the Legislature on the functions of the municipalities. "We do not leave enough to the municipal Councils," he said. "They know their own business better than we do." He urged that the townships be divided into wards, and Councillors elected by that system. "The Liberals have a platform," Mr. McCormick went on, "but the gentlemen opposite adopt our planks as we bring them out," he said amid laughter.

The member for East Peterborough (Mr. J. Thompson) ventured the opinion that the Opposition had not made one concrete suggestion during the debate, and said they had taken the planks of their platform from the Government policy. The agricultural policy of the Government had resulted in an enormous increase in the value of the farm products of the

Province by one hundred millions, and declared that the Agricultural College at Guelph was a conspicuous success as an important adjunct to the work of the department.

Mr. J. W. Johnson (West Hastings) favored the House with some classical illusions about the Conservative Hercules cleaning the Augean stables. He commended the agricultural practice of summer fallow, which had been worked upon the Conservative party for thirty years, rendering it mellow and fertile in wise legislation. By the time he had departed to other spheres perhaps the Liberal Opposition would be in a position to assume office with as much success as had distinguished the present Administration.

Too Much Red Tape.

Mr. W. E. Sinclair, who defeated Charles Calder in North Ontario, followed with a brief address. He confined himself to a criticism of the administration of educational affairs. There was, he declared, too much red tape, and that the management of the schools now was no better than it was when some of the members of the House were attending school. "The people," he continued, "are not getting the education for their children that they are entitled to for the money they are paying."

Mr. A. C. Pratt of South Norfolk had a slam for Model schools. He insisted that the wiping out of the Model schools, as far as was possible, was one of the best things the Government had done. He did not attempt to explain why the Government had since restored seven of these Model schools. He objected to criticism of the Government's ungenerous attitude to the agricultural interests, maintaining that the farmers of Ontario were never more prosperous.

Reforestation.

Colonel Atkinson of North Norfolk urged upon the Government the necessity of adopting a policy of reforestation. He told of the wiping out of Ontario's great hardwood forests, until now more hardwood was being imported than was cut in the Province annually.

"There is good reason why this should be gone into and further steps taken," he said in conclusion.

The Committee on Standing Orders met in the morning, and after electing Mr. T. H. Lennox as Chairman, proceeded to approve of a large number of private bills. A number of them were introduced during the session of the House.

What demonstration orchards has the Government instituted at the present time? will be asked by Mr. J. G. Anderson (Centre Bruce) on Monday next. Will the orchards be continued this year, and where?

Mr. J. C. Elliott (West Middlesex) is still anxious about the participation of Provincial employees in the South Renfrew bye-election, and will ask when both Brownley and Harry Moss were in the employ of the Government since January 1, 1905.

Mr. Mayberry of South Oxford was informed by Hon. James Duff that the Government had arrived at no understanding with the Dominion Government with reference to providing practical instruction in agriculture or grants for such purpose.