

He concluded with a moderate protest against the Government new settlement of New Ontario, and there should be no restriction of settlement of New Ontario and the Government should remove irritating clauses in its regulations so that both French and English speaking people could work together harmoniously in this great Province and concentrate their energies in order that they might crush forever German militarism.

Mr. Henri Morel (Nipissing), taking notice of the previous speaker's remarks about fish, said Government fish could be obtained at Callender and North Bay cheaper than in Toronto. He denied money was squandered on the roads in New Toronto and added that the overseers were working for the wages of common laborers. Referring to the new settlement regulations, he understood any British subject could get land in New Ontario. Some settlers took land merely to get the timber off, and it was to protect against these timber sharks that the Government had amended the regulations.

Centralization is Overdone.

Mr. Thomas Marshall (Lincoln) said it was noticeable that the only department which had not received a bouquet was the Education Department. He did not wish to indulge in captious criticism or partisan attacks in view of the political truce, but he wished to call attention to what he considered too much centralization in the Education Department. In the last ten years there had been a great increase in the headquarters staff of the Education Department and the results were not greatly improved. He found that in 1917 there were 25 persons in the Minister's Department and 17 in examination work, costing over \$50,000, as compared with 14 in the Minister's office and 6 on examinations, costing less than \$20,000 in 1905. The Education Department had been dictating to the Schools of Pedagogy at Toronto and Queen's Universities. It already had direct autocratic control of 90 per cent. of the educational institutions and apparently wished to get control of those which were left. Then there were inspectors over inspectors over other inspectors, and so on ad infinitum.

Cancellation of Certificates.

Mr. Marshall pointed out the peculiarity whereby, according to the regulations, students in the lower schools have to rewrite their Normal School examinations. Now he has learned that High School teachers, who are not university graduates, have to send in their certificates and get endorsed certificates. He said that it is a breach of faith for the department to cancel certificates. The Government pays between nine and ten per cent. of the local upkeep of schools, but so far as the control is concerned it is in the inverse ratio.

The text books used in the schools were next touched upon by the member for Lincoln, and he said he did so not merely with the idea of criticizing. He gave a list of the books required in the public schools up to and including the fifth form. In 1898 only 18 books were required and now 44 are authorized. The total cost at the present time of books is \$13.44 as against \$5.27 in 1898. Deduct optional books and you have a cost of \$10.86 as against \$4.22 before. "I don't believe that the work resulting throughout the schools of this Province warrant such an extra expense upon the people," said Mr. Marshall.

Juggling of Text-books.

Added to the cost of text-books is the cost of the Text-book Committee. In 1916 there was \$22,000 for this committee, and in 1917 \$14,000, or \$36,000 in two years spent "in juggling these text-books." If these books have been satisfactory this year and other years why should they be changed now? He followed the course of the Latin primary, pointing out that five different books had been used in twenty years, some of which merely had the binding changed. "We are back now to a Latin book very similar to the one we started with," he said. He pointed out that the geography being used to-day costs 65c. It has few maps, and an atlas has to be bought, too, at a cost of 50c. This year the history was ordered to be bound in one vol-

ume, and next year there will be a new book. One of the least things that can be said is that such conditions cause "irritation and they do not lead to bigger and better things."

Little Information in Reports.

Taking up the last annual statement of the Minister of Education, the speaker said the reports are disappointing, and they give very little idea of higher education throughout the Province. There are five inspectors in the English-French schools, and there are no reports. He asked if that was because there was nothing that could be given to the public. "I believe that whatever our views may be on this vexed question, if it is ever going to be settled in this Province now is the time to settle it," he continued. All the members know the situation, and somebody is suffering all the time, and "we should uphold the principles we can in so far as giving a good English general education to the pupils of the Province."

Mr. Marshall quoted English authorities as to what is being done there. In the very forefront is a movement looking to the health of the youth of the nation. Military education is closely allied with this, and when a Government sees that both the mind and the body are developed it does much for the nation in peace times, and it is better prepared to meet extraordinary calls in the time of war. In England it has been suggested that the school age be raised to eighteen years. However, it is not intended that a child should remain at school constantly until that age, nor that he should attend a night school after a hard day's work. Instead, the idea is to shorten the working hours so the child can take up educational work in part time, and thus fit himself better for the duties of citizenship.

Must Change Whole System.

"I think the system, without doubt, is all wrong," declared Mr. Marshall. "We cannot change it by changing the regulations, we cannot change it by changing officials. The whole system must be changed. It is too narrow and autocratic. We want something higher and greater for this Province. The reasonable way to do this is to call in a committee of experts as they have done in the old country."

Mr. Joseph Edgar (Parry Sound) said that there are many unorganized townships in his part of the Province. It is a matter of regret to many living in organized townships that people living in these unorganized parts are not compelled to