

April 9

taxes on the municipalities. This is not a tax fight between the Protestants and the Catholics. All the trouble is created by a gang of agitators for their own personal gain. If the Prime Minister is so anxious that the separate schools should receive this assistance, why does he not put the question to the vote of the taxpayers who have to foot the bill," he said.

"If this bill becomes law, it is going to encourage more separate schools in municipalities where there are no separate schools now. This will raise the school taxes on Roman Catholics and Protestants alike and create enmity," he said.

"In the Township of Westminster, there was \$800 in taxes from Catholic property sent in to the London Separate School Board, and only a dozen children attended the separate school. This is just another case where there should be no separate school supported," he said.

No Discrimination Seen.

"Grants to public schools dropped from 84.80 per cent. in 1932 to 81.74 in 1935, although the same grants to separate schools increased from 15.20 to 18.26 in the same years. I cannot see by this report where separate schools are being discriminated against," he said.

"Al Smith, ex-Governor of New York State, was approached by a huge deputation when he was Governor of the State, asking him to consider a form of sectarian schools similar to what we have in Ontario. His answer to that deputation was that United States had grown into a great nation under the one State school system, and to his mind the people of the United States were as well educated and were just as religious as in any other country and he could not see any reason to establish another school system which to his mind would create a higher tax burden on the people of the States," he said.

"In the district where I reside the population is about 50 per cent. Roman Catholic," concluded Mr. Duckworth, "and a great many of them send their children to Shirley Street School and Brock Avenue School because they think their children get along better in the public schools."