

Grand Falls wish to express to the members of the National Convention through your Honour their most loyal support and fullest cooperation in the great work in which you are now engaged stop we realise the task before you is not an easy one and therefore deserves the undivided support of the people of this country. Respectfully submitted.

J.J. Thompson, President.

J.J. Thompson, Esq.,  
President, The Nfld. Lumbermen's Association,

Grand Falls.

On behalf of National Convention and personally I thank you and your association for your highly valued expressions of support and cooperation and the interest you thus manifest in our work stop we deeply appreciate your courtesy and reciprocate your sentiments of goodwill tender to you and the members of your association our best wishes for a most successful convention stop kindest regards.

Cyril J. Fox,  
Chairman National Convention.

### Report of the Education Committee<sup>1</sup>

**Mr. Hollett** Mr. Chairman, and gentlemen of the National Convention, I should like to draw your attention to the copy of the report on education which you will find on your desks this afternoon. I might say that this report has been ready for some considerable time but it was held up because it was believed it would be wiser to await other reports which were nearing completion before we introduced the one on education, with the hope that the public sessions of the Convention might be enabled to continue. I might say that we experienced some little difficulty at the outset in making up our minds as to the proper approach of the committee on this question of education; the conception of education, as we all know, is changing from era to era and it is different in all parts of the world. We realised that education insofar as this country is concerned, is something the form of which is familiar to the whole of our people. Why then probe into the merits or demerits of the system of education? We felt therefore that it would be futile for us to raise that point in our report.

*[Read first page of report]*

We felt that we were approaching it in a right and proper sense. Even on our committee of ten men, there were various shades of opinion as to our present educational system. How useless would it therefore be to start this enquiry by introducing something which was already contentious. We feel that a system of education can only be introduced into any country when you have the majority of people favouring that system.

*[Continued reading tables from the report]*

<sup>1</sup>Volume II:65.

We discovered in one place where there were two-room schools that there were 71 pupils in one of these schools; one denominational body, when its numbers reached 21, wanted its own school; it got the school, thereby reducing it to a one-room school with one teacher. If one particular denomination can take its pupils away from a school where there are two qualified teachers and can reduce it to a one-room school, that is not a move in the right direction.

*[Continued reading report]*

We have in our midst today people who criticise the amount of money paid teachers under salaries. Only recently I heard it said that they were not worth the money they were getting. I recently met two teachers, one of them a male, and he told me he receives \$55 per month salary and for board in St. John's he pays \$47. The other receives a salary of \$50 and pays \$45 for board.

*[Continued reading report]*

And then we come to paragraph 11, the conclusion, and it is here we expect to get criticism, and we welcome criticism.

This is the report, Mr. Chairman and gentlemen, which we place before you, and to which we would like you to give your attention in the next 24 hours. There are points which you are bound to bring out which we have not touched. That is correct and as it should be. We could have gone back into the history of education, gone back to the Chinese and Greek and Latin concepts, but we figured it out that it would do very little to enhance the cause of education in this country. We do feel that the economic and financial standard of any country is in very great