

1944. I regret we did not read these tables yesterday all together, because some of these matters might have been straightened out as we went along. We are apt to pick out an item and overlook the real purpose for which these figures were given. I did not have, at the time of submitting these tables, the figures for 1945. The report of the Department of Education was delivered to me a few minutes ago, and, if you wish, I can give you some figures for 1945, which will make the position somewhat brighter.

Page 7, paragraph 6. First of all there are no figures for June 30, 1946. They have not yet been compiled statistically.... While we have not any definite assurance from the department, it is probable that these teachers were only working for six months. Also in 1944 there were 31 teachers getting between \$300 and \$400. There were none so low as these in 1945. Also in 1944 there were some getting between \$400 and \$500, and there were none in 1945. In other words there were 273 teachers getting less than \$500, whereas in 1945 there are none. That makes the situation quite different. It is regrettable that we did not have this report before....

Mr. Bailey Mr. Chairman, no one in this world knows worse than myself the lack of an education. At 20 years of age I had to take copy books and learn to write, so I did not get much of a start in life. I am glad that we have this before the Convention and before the people, because it's the first chance I have had to learn about education in this country as it is.

I have watched closely the statistics in different countries where I have been, more particularly in the United States, and I have come to the conclusion, not only in Newfoundland but in other parts, that teachers are the very poorest paid people in the world.... I totally agree with this report in every way, and firmly believe that we cannot cut expenditure down, if anything it should be raised up.

I am not in sympathy with the system of education in this country, especially in the outports. A lad in St. John's has got a chance, but under the system in the outports he has not. If we, along with two or three other spots in the world, have a different education system from the rest, surely all the world can't be wrong and we right? We have three denominational schools, in my home town today. One teacher has somewhere

between 40 and 50 children between the grades of four and eleven, and another has about 15 between the grades of Kindergarten and eleven, and just alongside another teacher has a school of 11 children. Consequently it is likely there won't be more than two or three children in that village that will make the grade. It is utterly impossible for a teacher to get through because he has too much on his hands.

I firmly believe our system of education is costing us at least half a million dollars too much. Probably our people are back where some countries were 150 years ago. It is not the fault of the country, there has been a real earnest endeavour to adjust to more modern ideas. I think this should be stressed strongly, that we should get together and cut out the cost of the overhead, and if we can't increase the money, I believe it is up to every Newfoundlander to see that this system is changed as quickly as possible, so that our children can go out into the world equipped for their jobs.

I know a man who left one of our outports a number of years ago, and although he started from scratch, by the time he was 35 years old he was head of one of the largest construction firms in the United States. I know what can be done, and I know what is being done in various parts of the world. I believe if we put in the Scotch system of education it would not be so expensive. There is nobody today that can face the world better than the Scotchman. If you go into a shipyard in the States every second man there is Mac, the architect, the manager, the office worker, because he is the best equipped for every job. In the far-flung parts of the Empire, everywhere you will find the Scot. If he comes from the Hebrides or wherever he comes from, it is all the same, they are all educated and can take their university course, and wherever he goes he can carry on his education and pick up everything necessary. That is why Scotland today has the smallest percentage of illiteracy in the world. I believe something can be done in this country; after all, it is what Newfoundland desires today.

Mr. Smallwood I have a great deal of admiration for the gentlemen in the Department of Education — for their enthusiasm on the job, for the extent to which they have successfully hounded more and more money out of the Commission of Government. I give them credit for it.