

be too particular.

**Mr. Butt** I believe that education is making real progress in Newfoundland and that our educators are doing an excellent job, but I feel that the Convention should be made conversant with the main lines, such as the grading of teachers, etc.

**Mr. Newell** Since the report has been tabled the Convention has been busy with other matters and I wonder how any delegates have studied the report.

**Mr. Job** Mr. Chairman, without doubt there is a marked difference between the estimate of salaries and your estimate of the total education grant of \$3,538,500. There is a difference of about \$1 million, and I think this should be cleared up.

**Mr. Smallwood** For the present year ending March 31, 1947, we got our information from the department within the past three weeks, and if there is any difference in the figures, as referred to by Mr. Job, why should anybody worry? That is a matter for Chadwick-Jones to worry about. After all, the Education Committee is comprised of average Newfoundlanders, and not of men thoroughly versed in the issue. With regard to state control of schools I feel that the pupils would be subjected to propaganda. I do, however, agree that children should be helped to think for themselves and to develop character, but I would not advocate state interference with the system.

**Mr. Hollett** This subject of education is a real problem. During its sessions the Education Committee was addressed by the secretary of the department and he gave sufficient information to the Committee to make us believe that the government was definitely interested in the training of teachers and that it had taken steps in this respect. I feel sure that the standing of the average teacher of the future will show a decided improvement over the past and present. While on this point I would like to remind delegates that the government could not be expected to spend thousands of dollars towards the training of teachers for very small settlements.

**Mr. Newell** The Education Committee did not feel it was obligated to examine all aspects and give all minute details, as the terms of reference pertained to an examination of Newfoundland's economic and financial condition. In view of this the Committee decided to find out the cost of education and other matters along general lines

in connection therewith....

**Mr. Crosbie** I agree with Mr. Newell that the primary job of the Convention is to collect financial and economic facts. I also believe we got the estimate of the expenditure on education far too low. The majority of professional teachers received less than \$3,000 in 1944, and I notice in the report also that two teachers received less than \$300 salary. If they had to pay board they were in debt. Further on I notice that 31 get from \$300 to \$400; 196 from \$500 to \$600; 285 from \$600 to \$699; 232 from \$700 to \$799; 202 from \$800 to \$900; 446 from \$1,000 to \$2,000 and 20 over \$2,000 upwards. I think this offers little encouragement to people to become professional teachers, and I think the Committee should recommend an increase in the salaries. We are not concerned with what has been paid in the past. We must look to the future, and it is ridiculous for anyone to think that a teacher could be expected to exist properly on \$500 a year.

**Mr. Hollett** I agree with Mr. Crosbie. I know one male teacher, aged 23 or 24, who is paid \$55 a month salary and who pays \$50 a month board, except that at Christmas-time he draws \$150 augmentation. I also know of a female teacher who is paid \$50 a month salary and pays \$42.50 a month board. She too gets the augmentation grant.

**Mr. Burry** Mr. Chairman, I feel sure we all agree with what Mr. Crosbie has said with regard to the small salaries paid school teachers. The same laxity applies to the training of our teachers. Twenty percent of our teachers are ungraded and yet Mr. Hollett wondered if the government was justified in spending money for the training of teachers in smaller schools. I come from a district where we have quite a number of small schools and need teachers, and I say that the government would be amply justified. There is no reason in the world why small communities should be deprived of the services of trained teachers, because perhaps it is from those schools that will be sent representatives to this house in later years. Good trained teachers is the important thing, I think. What Mr. Smallwood has said I back it up, we have to have a larger percentage spent on the training of teachers for all of our schools both in the city and in Labrador.

**Mr. Jackman** According to the figures now put forward by the Education Committee in regard to