

people will carry on their boarding school. They take the children from the isolated villages and families around the coast and bring them into North West River and Cartwright, board them, feed them and clothe them for \$40 a year, \$4 a month, and now at North West River they will be sending them to the amalgamated school, and we are hoping that boarding school will increase. That means that from the lone villages and families along the coast the children have the advantage of getting their education, and being

fed and clothed for the year, and under the denominational system the Anglican Church and the one I represent put teachers in the bigger villages along the coast, which gives us a fairly good system of education. The interest that the Grenfell Mission has had in the north has facilitated the matter of education to a great extent, and it seems to function fairly well at the present time.

[The committee rose and reported progress and the Convention adjourned]

November 7, 1946

Mr. Chairman¹ Before we begin, I have to report that the health of Hon. Mr. Justice Fox has

improved, as well as that of Mr. Brown and Mr. Banfield.

Report of the Education Committee:² Committee of the Whole

Mr. AshbourneThe money spent on schools and teacher training has been discussed. They are both very important and necessary, complementary to each other. We cannot allow the children of Newfoundland to spend their days in dilapidated, unhealthy and unsanitary schools, and the Commission of Government should be highly congratulated for embarking on school reconstruction on a big scale, as well as in the raising of teachers' salaries, which still need further attention. Brainy people can command good wages, and if teaching does not offer the necessary pecuniary reward it is small wonder that the ambitious seek other employment, where their services are more adequately compensated. If we expect to have as leaders to train our youth, to reap the fruits of the capabilities and talents of those who have attained the heights of scholarship, we must be prepared to pay salaries to induce them to remain in the teaching profession. In some outport schools we lack teachers who can satisfactorily teach certain languages and science. Teachers who cannot give instruction in these subjects will be at a disadvantage and the pupils also....

With reference to common or amalgamated schools³, there is a sincere desire on the part of many to have these schools; but on examination we find different grading of teachers. Where can we hope to get suitable teachers for common

schools until we are assured that a uniform and standard diploma of competency is forthcoming? Doubt may exist regarding the qualifications of teachers, but I feel that more co-ordination of the various heads of the Department of Education might be a good idea. Then the matter of ownership of these common schools comes up, and who is going to be responsible for their maintenance and repairs? The present system in Newfoundland has progressed very well, but if a concentration of the population were deemed advisable the matter would have to be solved. It is to be regretted that the building program has been temporarily halted owing to lack of nails and other building supplies. Another matter that calls for comment is school medical examination, which should be received by all pupils. Fortunately in Twillingate we have the Notre Dame Bay Memorial Hospital, and there is a clinic held by which each student can have a free medical examination. I believe this is the policy in vogue in St. John's also, but I would like to see it extended to all the outports....

I would like to pay tribute to the various school boards, as without their services I am afraid the whole plan of education could not function so well. I spent nine years as a member of a school board and in that time we had to pay 90% of our grant towards teachers salaries.

Next there is the matter of free and compul-

¹The Secretary, Captain Warren, acted as Chairman.

²Volume II:65.

³That is, non-denominational schools.