

Millertown, Badger, Buchans and compare their results in examinations with other places.

The present system does not give teachers a chance to accomplish what they would wish. A teacher with four or five grades to teach cannot hope to attain the same result as with one grade, and the children cannot hope to attain that degree of knowledge which is their right. The teachers in these seven schools number 18. The largest of these school has six rooms, three others have three rooms each, the other three schools one room each, making a total 18 rooms — 18. Can you imagine anything more wasteful or uneconomical when a central school of say ten or twelve rooms, and two schools for primary grades, would suffice? I might say that three of these school are situated within a radius of about 200 yards.

In conclusion, it is my opinion that the present system is not only wasteful and uneconomical, but seriously retards the education of our young people who do not get the chance to which they are entitled, and to whom we look forward, at some time, to carry on the public affairs of this country. It also restricts the efforts of that underpaid, self-sacrificing body, the teachers of this country, to reach the goal they have set for themselves, the education of our young people. They are doing a good job but would be eager and willing to do even a better one, without the present restrictions now placed upon them.

Mr. Higgins Usually I am in accord with my friend Mr. MacDonald on those matters, but frankly I can't agree with the statement, or his suggestions of a new school system such as he has outlined. As far as this country is concerned the system of education that we have meets with the approval of the people, and unless you have the approval of the people as a whole no system of education is going to be successful, because apparently it has worked out very well. Whilst it does not make any difference what comments we make here, nevertheless we should express our thoughts, and I would like to say that in my opinion our system of education is entirely satisfactory, and should not be changed.

Mr. Keough I would like to go on record as concurring completely with the statement made by Mr. Higgins.

Mr. Burry I would like to say a few words on that matter — as a member of the National Con-

vention, not as a member of the profession that has much to do with the spending of this money and is part of the denominational system. It is true, as Mr. Higgins said, it is the choice of the people and it should remain as such. I agree with him there, but I agree also with Mr. MacDonald that it is a wasteful system, not giving us the best possible advantage of the money spent, and I wonder if we could not as a country perhaps do a little better under our denominational system. There seems to be a tendency at the present time to greater divisions. Our school system in a little community seemed to be working very well, and then certain denominational interests stepped in and opened another school, which results in a very wasteful system. I would like to be able to arrange it so as to avoid that happening, to preserve that arrangement rather than to split it up again. That seems to be a thing to consider. I regret that sometimes you will find in some small communities a fairly good system operating under our denominational system, and then, for reasons that you all know, the split is made and the system is very inefficient. That does not apply to our work in Labrador, where I am chiefly interested, because our work there is going very very smoothly under the denominational system, but I am afraid perhaps in the future it may suffer because of it. I will have no more to say about this at the present time, but I would like to say that in Labrador and the northern part of Newfoundland the work of education is efficiently enhanced by the interest the Grenfell Mission people have had in the schools and the education of the people in the north. The amalgamated school in St. Anthony is a great success and is making a great contribution to that community. Perhaps you do not know just what is being done in Labrador by these people, and has been done for some years. There were three boarding schools in Labrador, one at Mary's River, one at Cartwright and one at North West River. Two of these are still existing, one at Cartwright under Dr. and Mrs. Forsyth and one at North West River under Mrs. Paddon and her son. The one at North West River is now being converted into a non-denominational school. We have three teachers there, and we have plans made for the community to set up a \$15,000 building with a four room school. It will be under the board of education, but I am glad to say that the Grenfell Mission