THE B. C. TEACHER

Official Organ of the B. C. Teachers' Federation

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Editorial

The University Summer School

WE DESIRE to draw special attention to the courses offered this year at the Eighth Summer Session of the University of British Columbia, particulars of which are to be found in this issue. For some time past, the Federation has been taking a very active interest in the whole question of Extra-mural work, and has been making every effort to convince the University authorities of the absolute necessity of providing the same opportunities in our local institution as are offered by other universities in Canada, for those who wish to complete work for their degree, and yet who for very good and sufficient reasons can not attend the winter sessions of the University. As has been consistently pointed out by the Federation, the contemplated reorganization of the educational system of the Province, means that those teachers desiring to keep up their standard of efficiency and particularly those desiring to qualify for the new positions will require opportunities for further academic and professional study. Such teachers feel that it should be the duty and the privilege of our own University to provide these opportunities. We are strongly of the opinion that apart from the apparent justice of the claim, the University would itself gain tremendously from the close connection which would thus be established between the teachers throughout the Province, and the University.

Up to the present time, however, although considerable advances have been made—the University has not reached a definite decision, either in favour of, or against, the whole question of extra-mural work.

The matter has been referred to Committee and will come up for final decision early in the next University year.

In the meantime, however, the University has temporarily met our requests, and h s sanctioned for this coming summer additional courses in the Fourth year of the Arts Course, for those who have already completed the work of the first three years.

The future policy of the Summer School will no doubt be influenced greatly, by the degree of success attending this year's session, and, we would therefore ask all who have already taken such a keen interest in th matter, to do all in their power to ensure that both in attendance and in accomplishment, this summer will establish such irrefutable evidence of the need of permanent provision that the University will be convinced of the wisdom of establishing adequate extra-mural courses, and of thus laying the foundation for a University Summer School which by reason of the excellence of its instruction, and its wonderful location in the vacation centre of the Pacific North West, will ultimately be second to none on the Continent.

The Victoria Summer School

For those teachers not desiring University work, the popular Victoria Summer School is again offering many attractive courses of a practical nature, and no doubt large numbers will be in attendance. Health education, and Music, figure very prominently in the programme, while the Demonstration School operated in conjunction with the session gives an opportunity for observing the successful application of modern educational methods. The teachers of British Columbia have already built up an enviable record for their active interest in advanced professional training, and we are confident that this year's results will add still further to this commendable distinction.

Two Important Conventions

At the Easter Convention, Mr. T. R. Cole, Superintendent of Seattle Schools, extended a special invitation to all British Columbia teachers to be the guests of the National Education Association at the great Convention which will be held in Seattle from July 3rd to July 8th.

The American teachers are arranging a welcome to their Canadian colleagues, as a special feature of this year's gathering. No doubt, many will avail themselves of the unique opportunity of a holiday combining both pleasure and profit, and will join the party to make the trip.

The Federation is arranging details (which will be given in the June issue of the magazine) but in the meantime, it would be of material help if those who intend going would notify the General Secretary, stating whether they wished to travel by train, boat, stage, or if driving by their own car, and also if they wish hotel arrangements made for them. We should also like to have the names of those who may be at the

University of Washington Summer School during that week, and who would be able to attend the special functions.

The World Federation Conference in Toronto is fully dealth with elsewhere, but the Federation would be glad to know of any British Columbia Teachers who intend being present. Arrangements will be made for those from our Province to travel as a party, if possible, joining with other members from other Provinces as we proceed. Please send in names early to the General Secretary.

Federation Membership

The month of May has always given us a large addition to our paid-up membership. This year, we have made a record start, and have already received 780 fees. We are very anxious to maintain our progress, and would appreciate highly the action of all who may find it possible to renew for this year before the holiday season approaches. Early recording of membership is of material assistance in the economical administration of the Federation's affairs, and hence we ask the co-operation of all to this end.

W. H. Morrow, M.A.

President British Columbia Teachers' Federation, 1927-28.

Mr. W. H. Morrow, M.A., the newly-elected President of the B. C. Teachers' Federation, was born at St. John, New Brunswick, and received his Public and High School education in his native city. After serving two years as a draughtsman, he proceeded to the University of New Brunswick, taking his B.A. degree and later his Master's degree in classics. He taught for one year at the Riverside Consolidated School, N.B., and for four years at the Charlotte County Grammar School at St. Andrews-by-the-Sea, N.B. Upon coming to British Columbia he accepted a position as Assistant in the King Edward High School, Vancouver, and remained on the staff for five years, when he resigned to take up a similar position on the staff of Magee High School, Point Grey. After six years at Magee, he was appointed to his present post as Principal of Lord Byng High School when that institution opened in 1924.

Mr. Morrow has always taken an active interest in teacher-organization work, and when the High School Teachers' Association of the Lower Mainland was formed, he was elected Vice-President, and became President of the Association during the following year. He has also occupied the important position of Chairman of the High School Teachers' Section of the Federation.

He is now entering upon his fourth year as a member of the Executive of the B. C. Teachers' Federation, having been elected previously for the years 1922-23, 1925-26, 1926-27.

During his connection with the Federation he has always been regarded as a man of outstanding executive ability and of sincere and honest convictions, and has at all times shown that he is willing to undertake any duty in the interests of his fellow-teachers, no matter what personal sacrifice of time and energy might be involved.

Upon the reorganization of the Editorial Board of the Magazine, Mr. Morrow was appointed Chairman, and has rendered yeomen service in this connection. Every member of the Board gave wonderful co-operation, and a fine spirit developed, a spirit which not only produced excellent results, but which has been caught up by many of the teachers of the Province, who have in consequence made splendid contributions of a worth-while nature. That this is so is evidenced by the statement of a large Eastern publisher, who writes: "Your magazine pages reflect a fraternal spirit which is greatly to be admired, and which is not often to be found in educational journals."

No account of Mr. Morrow's career would be complete if it omitted to mention his great interest in athletics, for he has always given valuable service in this department of school activities, and acted as chairman of the Federation sub-committee dealing with Physical Training, School Sports, etc., in connection with the Educational Survey.

We congratulate Mr. Morrow upon his election to the highest honour which his fellow-teachers can bestow upon him, and we feel absolutely confident that the Federation will have a great year under his capable leadership.

If all teachers in B. C. could catch even a glimpse of the vision of "Service" so exemplified by Mr. Morrow, then all would speedily seek inclusion within the active ranks of the Federation, where they, too, would find an avenue of opportunity for assisting in a truly great work, namely, the advancement of education in B. C. by the inauguration and support of any movement leading to sound and sane progress.

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I have been asked to write, for publication in "The B. C. Teacher," a message for the Federation, as we look ahead to another year's work. Just why the Federation needs a message I am not sure, and I am not at all sure that I have any message for it. But, it having become, I am assured, the invariable custom that a President must have a message and give it, I must comply.

There seem to be three directions from which to view our organization: looking backward at its past ten years of history; looking around at its present situation; and looking forward to the possibilities that lie ahead. I find it quite impossible to say which of the three makes me feel most positive of the need for all of us to be in on this thing, or which makes me feel most assured of the permanence of the Federation.

Looking back, we can recall much that has been accomplished.

A great deal of money has been collected in dues, and spent; it might give us a shock, for a moment, to count it all up. But there can be no doubt that every cent so spent has come back to us many-fold. It has come back, too, to those who never contributed; which seems Irish, but I hope you understand my meaning. Higher salary schedules, greater security of tenure, assurance of sick-pay allowance, the hope of a satisfactory superannuation scheme, and many other benefits, have resulted from our efforts. It has been inevitable that these should be shared with those who have been indifferent or have refused to co-operate with us. But why worry about that? The future will take care of this problem. In the meantime we can know that the present status of the teaching profession is very much higher because of the existence of the B.C.T.F.

But in another field, that of general educational progress, we can see much that has been done. From the first, the Federation has felt free to offer suggestions to the Department of Education on any phase of our educational system. From the first, too, these have been presented, not merely in a critical spirit, but with the knowledge that the teachers' point of view was worth presenting. The way in which these suggestions and recommendations have been received by the Education Department has been one of the inspiring things about our Federation; and the progress thus made, from year to year, has itself justified our existence.

Many other things might be said about the past; but one must not be omitted. The B.C.T.F. has had its share, and not at all a small one, in the development of the Canadian Teachers' Federation. Of recent years the movement towards the organization of professional organizations among teachers has become world-wide, and it is good to know that we have no reason to feel ashamed of the place that our Federation holds among similar bodies. Perhaps we have been a bit too busy with our own problems to appreciate the place we might hold, and the inspiration that our success can be to those who find the development of such professional organizations a harder problem. We have an opportunity, this summer, to get a glimpse of something far greater, and it is to be hoped that our contributions to the World Federation Convention in Toronto, and our representation there, will be such as to lead us to a broader outlook.

There have been mistakes in the past, of course. We have had hard problems to face. Our organization, like all others, is changing as it grows. Naturally, there are many points in which we still need to change. There has been dissatisfaction, at times, with what has been done. All this, it seems to me, is inevitable; and there need be no worry because of it. At the present time there is growing up probably the finest spirit of co-operation, and of willingness to undertake any task that may arise, that we have yet experienced. We have passed safely through a critical period of change of headquarters, and of reorganization in various ways. Our membership is good, but just good enough to give a chance for very large additions. We have

started out on our new year with the best record yet, so far as early payment of dues is concerned, and we have it in our hands to make this year, in every way, the best yet.

So much for the present. And in the immediate future we can see problems big enough to make us all want to help in solving them. In the broadest field, that of general progress, we have a great opportunity in the work that the Research Committee is suggesting to us. Perhaps the most successful bit of work undertaken in the past was that done by the Survey Committee, whose recommendations to the Survey Commission were so much appreciated by the Commissioners. Now the Research Committee is asking us to continue such work. They are not setting us a task to be finished in a few months, but rather to make it a definite part of our policy, that we shall continue along these lines.

As regards the teaching profession, we have the problem of superannuation. Much ground-work has been done; we are getting to the stage where our goal is in sight; and it means continued interest, a good deal of education of the public, and perhaps a little more patience than some of us usually care to exercise, and then the goal will be reached. In the meantime superannuation must be one of our main objectives.

One other problem concerns our organization itself. If we are to be a Provincial organization—and only such a Federation can speak with authority for the teachers of the Province on educational or professional matters—we must see that our outlook is Province-wide. That means, I believe, that we must realize as we have not yet fully done, the absolute need of a still bigger and better Convention; and that we must face, as we never have previously, the question of making it possible for teachers from all parts of the Province to attend such a gathering. There are tremendous difficulties in the way, and the problem looks almost hopeless as one faces it; but it is not hopeless. There is a solution, which can be found if we can get our members to realize the vital necessity of finding it.

We have all said, probably, that a teachers' organization can be successful only when there is financial difficulty in sight; that the salary question is the only one on which we can really get together. The experience of such organizations all over the world is showing this to be untrue. We need never apologize for our efforts to secure better conditions; but when these are secured there will always remain a greater goal ahead. And seeing the way in which the recognition of this is growing, I can feel no doubt of the future of our Federation. I find it impossible to imagine a British Columbia of twenty-five, fifty, a hundred years from now, in which education will have reached the development that it must reach by that time, and which could get along without a professional organization of teachers, likely far beyond our imagination at the present time, and yet a logical development of our Federation as it exists today. And it is a great privilege to have a part in meeting today's problems, and so helping to lay the foundations for the greater things beyond.

The Easter Convention

It seems to be the general opinion that the Victoria Convention was the most successful ever held in our history, and the Federation has received many commendations from the officials of the Department, from Inspectors, and from visitors, as well as from many members, for the excellent programme provided.

The attendance surpassed the most sanguine anticipations, about 700 teachers actually registering. In addition many visitors were present at the public sessions. A further gratifying feature was the fact that the attendance was representative of most parts of the Province.

An excellent spirit prevailed throughout the whole of the proceedings, and the arrangements were such that, with few exceptions, everything passed off smoothly and according to schedule.

The general sessions were featured by addresses full of inspiration and information, and perhaps, more important still, the various speakers were all practical in their remarks, there being a commendable absence of the theoretical platitudes so frequently heard at gatherings of this nature. We are deeply appreciative of the great contributions made by Dr. S. J. Willis, Dr. Ellwood Cubberley, Dr. J. B. Wyman, Dr. A. C. Roberts, Mr. Cole and Dean Quainton in this connection.

The sectional meetings also, were of a very practical nature, and one of the finest things of the Convention was the willingness with which Inspectors, Normal School Instructors, and the many teachers concerned, undertook the tasks allotted to them. Teachers who so cheerfully give of their knowledge and their experience, for the benefit of their colleagues, are performing a very real professional service, and are demonstrating in a very tangible way that teaching is coming into its rightful place as a profession, in the fullest significance of the word. All honour to them for such fine co-operation.

No report of this year's Convention would be complete without reference to the social functions which were so thoroughly enjoyed by all who were privileged to attend.

The reception by the Provincial Government and the Education Department was a feature that was very highly appreciated.

The guests were received by the Minister of Education, the Hon. J. D. MacLean and Mrs. MacLean; the Hon. A. M. Manson, Attorney-General; the Hon. W. H. Sutherland, Minister of Public Works; the Hon. E. D. Barrow, Minister of Agriculture, and the Superintendent of Education, Dr. S. J. Willis, and Mrs. Willis. The Premier,

the Hon. John Oliver, who had arranged to be present, was unfortunately prevented from doing so by illness. In addition, the whole staff of the Education Department was on hand to assist in the welcome given to the teachers, while the members of the staff of the Provincial Library also were present and gave splendid assistance in showing and explaining to the visitors the unique and highly valuable contents of the Provincial Archives.

An orchestra added to the enjoyment of the function, and a delightful buffet supper was served. The Parliament Buildings were beautifully illuminated in honour of the occasion. Throughout there was present a very tangible evidence of that highly-valued spirit of goodwill, and co-operation, which has always marked the mutual relationship of the Department and the teachers of the Province. To the Provincial Government generally, and to Dr. MacLean and Dr. S. J. Willis particularly, we extend our grateful thanks for their wonderful hospitality and for the tribute thus paid to the teaching profession of British Columbia.

The Crystal Garden function was also a great success, and over 500 were present to enjoy the many good things so admirably arranged by the Executive and Special Committee of the Victoria Teachers' Association, to whom we owe a deep debt of gratitude.

In addition to dancing, to the strains of a splendid orchestra, there was a most interesting exhibition of aquatic sports, including races, diving contests, a water-polo match and many "comic stunts," in which many of the best swimmers and divers of Victoria and district took part. The beauty of the building, with its magnificent swimming pool, lovely garden terraces, and excellent ballroom, gave a unique setting to the affair, which will long be remembered as an outstanding feature of the 1927 Convention.

It is eminently fitting that this brief account should be concluded by a well-deserved tribute to President G. W. Clark, for the very able manner in which he carried out his duties as presiding officer at all of the meetings.

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Annual General Meeting

REPORT

The Annual General Meeting of the British Columbia Teachers' Federation was held in the auditorium of the Victoria High School, Victoria, B. C., on Thursday, April 21st, 1927, commencing at 9:45 a.m.

There were present, President G. W. Clark in the chair; members of the British Columbia Teachers' Federation Executive Committee; delegates and representatives from Member-Associations throughout the Province; a number of unattached members; General Secretary Harry Charlesworth, and Assistant Secretary Miss Charlotte Clayton.

On motion, the Minutes of the last Annual Meeting were adopted as read.

President's Report:

In submitting his report for the year, President Clark referred to his visits to various Associations; to the movement of the Federation Office to Vancouver; to the Canadian Teachers' Federation meeting at Charlottetown, P. E. I., which he attended along with Mr. W. H. Morrow, and Mr. H. W. Creelman, representing the British Columbia Federation; and also to the Magazine. He made fitting reference to the excellent services rendered by the various members of the Editorial Board, and also to the good work accomplished by the Research Committee, under the Chairmanship of Mr. G. A. Fergusson.

Mr. E. H. Lock and Mr. W. R. Smith were mentioned for their services on the Constitution and By-laws and Resolutions Committee, while the Chairman of the Finance Committee, Mr. H. W. Creelman, the Secretary-Treasurer, Miss McKillican, and the Finance Committee members, Messrs. Ford and Webb, were all deservedly commended for the splendid way in which they had carried out their duties.

After paying tribute to the untiring efforts of the Victoria Teachers' Association in making the local arrangements for the Convention so outstandingly successful, he concluded by expressing his deep appreciation of the assistance rendered to him throughout the year by the members of the Federation Executive, and by Mr. Charlesworth and Miss Clayton.

The General Secretary's Report:

In presenting his report, Mr. Charlesworth said that he wished

to associate himself with the well-deserved expressions of appreciation voiced by the President to those who had rendered such fine service during the year, and also to pay a sincere tribute to the President himself for the very able manner in which he had carried out his duties throughout his term of office. He said that as General Secretary, he knew probably better than anyone else could know, just how much time and service was demanded of those who were chosen to lead the Federation each year, and he knew that Mr. Clark had not on any occasion failed to respond to any call made upon him, and in many cases such response had involved considerable personal sacrifice.

Mr. Charlesworth dealt only with the more important aspects of the year's work, confining his remarks to the questions of Membership, Legislative changes in the School Act, Superannuation, and Fall Conventions.

Membership

Membership for the year was reported as 1780, together with a student membership of 143, making a total of 1923. The membership for the previous year was 1608, so that a gratifying increase had been made.

New or revived Associations had been formed in Skeena-Omineca, South Atlin, Kimberley, Ladysmith and Esquimalt, with others in process of organization.

Reference was also made to the fact that over 500 fees had already been received for the ensuing year, although only six weeks of the Federation year had elapsed, this constituting a record and giving a splendid start for our objective of record membership for the year ending February 29th, 1928.

Legislation and Superannuation

Legislation is dealt with fully in another portion of this issue. Superannuation will be dealt with in the June issue.

In the matter of Local Fall Conventions, the General Secretary suggested that the various centres should so arrange Convention dates, that speakers might be able to attend a series on one trip. This would aid materially in the securing of good programmes. Preliminary steps toward this end had already been taken, he said, and almost all of the Associations had signified their agreement with the idea.

In concluding, Mr. Charlesworth thanked the members of the Executive, the members of the many Committees, the officers of Local Associations, and the staff representatives for their co-operation during the year, stating that the combined activities of all had overcome the special difficulties arising from the important changes

in our organizatio... paved the way for an even stronger Federation in the ...

Amendment... ...n were next taken up:

AM... ...IE CONSTITUTION

At the Ann... ...of the British Columbia Teachers' Federation, ..., on April 21st, 1927, the following amendments ... and By-Laws of the Federation were duly carried.

1. **Section 26:** ... words, "during the Easter Vacation," be struck out. Section 26, as amended, now reads as follows:

"The Annual General Meeting shall be held at such time of each year as the Executive Committee may order, but at least thirty days' notice shall be given to Member-Associations and Unattached Members."

2. **Section 27:** That after the words, "one additional delegate shall be added," the following sentence be inserted: "Each Member-Association whose membership is less than ten shall be entitled to one delegate." Section 27, as amended, now reads as follows:

"The voting body at an Annual General or Special General Meeting shall consist of the Executive Committee and delegates from each Member-Association. Each Member-Association shall have the right to representation in the meeting in the proportion of one delegate to each ten of its members, and where the membership is in excess of an exact multiple of ten, one additional delegate shall be added. Each Member-Association whose membership is less than ten shall be entitled to one delegate. When Unattached Members are present, they are hereby empowered to select delegates to represent them in like proportion."

3. **Section 42:** That the heading, "Financial Year," be inserted before Section 42.

4. **Section 42, sub-section (1):** That the words, "July 1st," be substituted for the words, "March 1st." Section 42, sub-section (1), as amended, now reads as follows:

"The annual fees of this Federation are due and payable on July 1st of each year."

5. That the heading, "Fees," be inserted before sub-section (2), Section 42.

6. **Section 42, sub-section (2):** That the words, "based on the following graduated scale," be struck out, and the following substituted: "as fixed by the Annual Meeting." Section 42, sub-section (2), as amended, now reads as follows:

"Each Member-Association shall pay into the Federation treasury an annual per capita fee as fixed by the Annual Meeting."

7. That the scale of fees included in Section 42, sub-section (2), be removed from the Constitution.

8. **Section 42, sub-section (3):** That the words, "in sub-section (2) above," be struck out, and the following substituted: "fixed by the Annual Meeting." Section 42, sub-section (3), as amended, now reads as follows:

"Unattached Members shall pay into the Federation treasury fees according to the scale fixed by the Annual Meeting."

9. **Section 42, sub-section (4):** That the words, "according to the above scale," be amended to read: "according to the scale fixed by the Annual Meeting." Section 42, sub-section (4), as amended, now reads as follows:

"Student Members who have during their training signed an agreement to join the Federation shall be admitted to active membership upon the payment of a fee of one-half the rate applicable according to the scale fixed by the Annual Meeting."

10. **Section 42, sub-section (5):** That after the words, "for the first time," the following words be inserted: "or returning after a retirement from active teaching." Section 42, sub-section (5), as amended, now reads as follows:

"Teachers joining the Federation for the first time or returning after a retirement from active teaching shall pay a fee equal to one-tenth of the applicable yearly rate per teaching month for the unexpired portion of the Federation year."

Report of Pooling Committee

In submitting the report of the Pooling Committee, Mr. A. Martin pointed out that although the sum total of claims amounted to over $1400, only about $500 had been collected. In view of this fact, a Committee of the Executive had been appointed to confer with the members of the Pooling Committee to bring in a recommendation for dealing with the situation.

This joint Committee consisted of Mr. A. Martin, Mr. A. S. Matheson, Mr. J. W. Williams (Pooling Committee members) Mr. L. B. Boggs, Mr. A. S. Wate and Miss M. E. Colman (Executive members), together with the General Secretary.

After a thorough discussion of the whole subject, the following resolutions had been adopted unanimously for submission to the Annual Meeting:

(a) Pooling Arrangement for Future Conventions.

(1) Moved that there be a registration fee of $2, payable by each Federation member attending the Conventions.

(2) That there be a registration fee of $3, payable by each non-member of the Federation attending Conventions.

(3) That single fare to the Conventions of each Federation member attending, be guaranteed.

This resolution was formally moved and seconded, and after discussion, during which it was pointed out that the Federation was endeavoring to make each Convention pay for itself without involving large expenditures from ordinary Federation funds, and that the Victoria Convention had made considerable headway in this direction, it was adopted unanimously.

(b) Pooling Arrangements for This Year's Convention.

To meet the situation arising from this year's lack of contributions, it was decided unanimously "That the final deficit of this year's Pooling Expenses be met from the funds of the current year."

At this point, President Clark expressed the appreciation of the meeting to the members of the Pooling Committee for the very arduous work they had undertaken and for the splendid manner in which it had been accomplished as far as they were concerned. The meeting adjourned for luncheon at 12:00 o'clock, and resumed at 2:00 o'clock.

Report of Federation Education Committee

Mr. G. A. Fergusson submitted the report of the Education Committee as follows:

Report of Education Committee

In making the report of the Education Committee to the Annual Meeting, a brief review of the steps taken to organize the work may be in order.

After a preliminary discussion with Mr. Clark, Mr. Morrow and Mr. Charlesworth, a meeting was called of those who had been chairmen of the sub-committees of the Federation Survey Committee together with Mr. Palmer, President of the H.S.T.A.L.M., Mr. Dobson, President of the Vancouver Teachers' Association, and Mr. Straight, of the Vancouver Bureau of Measurements. A list of suggested topics was made and the personnel of committees discussed.

At the next meeting it was decided to offer a wide choice of topics and to make committees largely ex-officio groups. The Education Committee consists of the President of the B.C.T.F., the Past Presidents, the Presidents of Provincial Sections, members of the Editorial Board, and representatives of the Vancouver Teachers' Association. The chairmen of sub-committees are the Presidents of Associations or chairmen of sections of Associations with Greater Vancouver people as conveners.

Circular letters were sent out to all Associations, outlining the plans, giving a list of suggested topics and announcing the personnel of committees. Each Association was asked to report what particular phase of the work it would undertake and what suggestions it had to make. Replies were received from Dewdney, the Home Econ-

omics Section, Langley, North Vancouver City, South Vancouver and the Vancouver Principals' Association. Topics chosen were the making of tests, acceleration, retardation, curriculum, textbooks and creeds, except that the Vancouver Principals' Association took the main topics suggested and organized in committees on each.

In the November issue of "The B. C. Teacher" a report was made of what had been done so far, and in a later issue appeared a list of the topics and chairmen chosen by the Vancouver Principals' Association.

A final circular letter for the year was sent out in March, asking for reports of progress, which might be embodied in a report for this Annual Meeting. Communications came in from three groups stating the topics they were interested in, but sending no report. Others stated that they had no report as their request for assistance had met with slight response. In this connection, mention might be made of the work of Mr. J. M. Ewing of North Vancouver, who received very few replies to 100 questionnaires sent out. Mr. Webb of Nanaimo sent in a report of a study of the effect of acceleration upon health.

Special mention must be made of the work of the Vancouver Principals' Association under the leadership of Mr. J. E. Brown, of the Strathcona Public School, who organized his Association so efficiently. While some of his groups made verbal reports of progress, definite reports were handed in from four groups. Mr. Brown himself reported on "Modern Educational Objectives," while Mr. Reid on "Curriculum" and Mr. Dobson on "Teacher Training" prepared with their groups reports which have resulted in resolutions to be presented to this meeting. The work of Mr. R. P. Steeves on "Examinations" is shown in the papers read by him before two of the Sections at this Convention.

The question of Libraries is being handled by a strong committee under the chairmanship of Mr. R. P. Steeves, who will represent the B.C.T.F. on the Research Board of the Provincial Library Commission. The question of Rural Schools and their improvement is in the capable hands of Captain Barry of Qualicum Beach, who, with his committee, has been doing such splendid work during the year in connection with Library work.

In making such a report one feels tempted to mention some of the difficulties with which the Education Committee is confronted, but a more fitting close is a request for still greater co-operation, and the expression of the hope that the members of the B.C.T.F. will realize that, however vast and unending the task seems to be, success will crown their efforts, when each one is willing to share with others his experiences and undertake some part of the task, however small that part may be.

Finance Committee Report

Mr. H. W. Creelman, Chairman of the Finance Committee, next submitted the report of his Committee for the year 1926-27. He drew attention to the fact that there had been a decrease in the Balance on Hand of $1637, and that our expenditures for the year had exceeded our receipts. He analysed very frankly the financial position of the Federation, stating that there could be little hope of reducing much further the expenditures of the Federation without radically altering the organization itself, for his Committee had done everything possible in that direction. The hope therefore lay in a larger membership, giving larger receipts, for an increase of membership would involve very little extra cost of administration. The machinery now in existence could handle the full possible membership of the Province. Also the magazine could, by increased advertising, add to revenue, and this increase was already assured.

He concluded by stating that while the Financial Statement itself made him seem somewhat of a pessimist, yet the outlook for the coming year had several signs which gave grounds for optimism. He warned that every year seemed rosy at its commencement, but he believed there was much reason for real encouragement this year.

Miss N. M. McKillican, Secretary-Treasurer, presented the Financial Statement and Report as prepared by the Auditors for the year, and gave the explanations necessary. She stated that as a sign of the coming year's opportunities she wished to report that already over $6,000 had been received by the Federation (in seven weeks) giving a wonderful start to the year's finances.

After questions had been called for and answered, it was duly moved, seconded, and carried unanimously, "That the Financial Statement be adopted."

(NOTE—Financial Statement already printed in March issue of The B. C. Teacher.)

Report of the Editorial Board

Mr. W. H. Morrow, Chairman of the Editorial Board of "The B. C. Teacher," presented the following report:

As Chairman of the Editorial Board of "The B. C. Teacher," I beg to report as follows:

The changes made since the last Annual Meeting are familiar to all and seem to have met with general approval. We have found everyone willing to co-operate in every possible way to make the magazine of more interest and value, and there is every indication that this happy condition will continue during the coming year.

The Magazine, for various reasons, has not fully paid its way this year. The change in the size of page, and the move from Victoria to Vancouver, had their effect at first; but with the last few issues a condition has been reached where prospects for the coming year are very satisfactory.

In addition, a committee of the Federation, headed by Mr. W. F. Houston, is being organized to co-operate with the Board in connection with advertising.

In order to provide for this advertising arrangement, and to make it possible to add to the Board if it seems desirable, a recommendation is being made, through the Executive, that the number of the Editorial Board be not limited to five, as at present.

On behalf of the Board, I wish to express our thanks to those who have contributed so willingly. And, personally, I cannot express too strongly my own personal appreciation of the amount of work done so very cheerfully by the members of the Board, and also of the very fine spirit which has existed between the Managing Editor and the Board.

Election of President

Nominations for the office of President of the British Columbia Teachers' Federation for the ensuing year were called for. The names submitted by the Nominating Committee (formed in accordance with the Constitution) were:

Mr. W. H. Morrow, Point Grey.
Mr. T. W. Woodhead, Vancouver.

Mr. A. S. Matheson of Penticton was nominated from the floor of the Convention, but owing to his geographical location, he asked permission to withdraw his name.

Nominations were then formally closed, and after an involved discussion of the rights of voting by proxy, a ruling was given by the Chair, that only official proxies, duly signed, would be recognized.

Mr. A. S. Matheson and Miss H. R. Anderson were appointed as scrutineers, and after the ballots had been counted, President Clark announced that Mr. W. H. Morrow had been duly elected to office as President for the year 1927-28, and called upon him to now take the Chair. Mr. Morrow, upon coming to the platform, thanked the delegates for the honour conferred upon him, and appealed for the support of every member in the work to be undertaken during the year.

Election of Auditors

It was duly moved and seconded: That the matter of appointment of Auditors be left in the hands of the incoming Executive.

Geographical Representatives on the Executive for 1927-28

In the matter of Geographical Representatives on the Executive for 927-28, the General Secretary reported as follows:

Northern Vancouver Island.....Mr. A. H. Webb, Nanaimo
Southern Vancouver Island.....Mr. I. Dilworth, Victoria

(Continued on page 45)

Resolutions Passed at the Annual General Meeting of the B. C. Teachers' Federation

THE FOLLOWING resolutions were first considered and endorsed by the Provincial High School Teachers' Section of the Convention. They were then brought before the Annual Meeting of the Federation, and, after consideration by the representatives of all sections, were adopted:

A. Examinations.

1. Resolved that this Section favour having a portion of all mathematical papers set by the Department to be of an objective type.

2. Whereas the present Percentage System does not allow for the differences in the types of papers set and the differences in the marking of different subjects, and

Whereas the Percentage System gives no clue to the relative standing of a student in different subjects, and

Whereas there is no basis for comparison between subjects, and

Whereas the Percentage System attempts to grade students on too fine a scale, and

Whereas it fixes an arbitrary failing point which is the same for subjects with different possible maxima,

Resolved that this Section recommends the adoption of the Letter System (A, B, C, D, E,) in place of t he present Percentage System in the Junior Matriculation Examination.

We recommend a system along the following lines:

A= 6%
B=24%
C=40%
D=24%
E= 6%.

That scholarship students be ranked according to totals. Until a unit system is adopted which will involve promotion by subject, we recommend:

(a) That 50% of the total possible mark be required for a pass;

(b) If a pupil secures 50% or over on his total, E shall constitute a supplemental;

(c) Where the pupil falls below 50% on his total, C shall be required in a subject for which partial standing is granted.

3. That a semi-permanent Board of Examiners be appointed, a minority to go out of office at the end of the second year and at the end of each succeeding year.

4. That a Chairman of such Board be appointed whose duties shall be:

(a) to check marked papers;

(b) to compare marks given with the estimate sent to the Department by teachers whose pupils are being examined.

5. That the standard be determined from consideration of the papers of those pupils most highly estimated (for example, pupils recommended as candidates for scholarship).

6. That in the question dealing with faulty sentences more marks be assigned to the correction than to the giving of reasons for such correction.

B. Accredited High Schools.

7. That this Convention urge on the Department of Education the consideration of the feasibility of organizing the system of accredited High Schools, such accrediting to be done by the Department of Education on the basis of the competence of the teachers and on inspectors' reports.

C. Teacher Training.

9. That a Faculty of Education be established affiliated with the University of British Columbia, and be under the direct control of the Department of Education, and that regulations be laid down regarding qualifications of all appointees to the work of Teacher Training.

10. That the Department of Education enter into negotiations with regard to the building of a school in connection with the University Teacher Training Course.

11. That until such a school is built, the system should be adopted of using the existing High Schools of Vancouver and district as practice schools, and of having the instruction in special methods given mainly by competent High School teachers, such teachers to act also as critic teachers.

12. That the Department of Education have definite regulations laid down regarding the requirements for admission to the training courses for high school teachers, and that such teachers be obliged to take in the Third and Fourth years at least three honours or pass courses selected from either or both of the following:

(a) English, History, French, Latin.

(b) Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry.

13. That all teachers whose services are used in carrying out teacher training work should receive adequate remuneration.

The following resolutions were first considered and endorsed by the Provincial Public School Section of the Convention. They were then brought before the Annual Meeting of the Federation, and, after consideration by the representatives of all sections, were endorsed and referred to the incoming Executive for action:

D. Teacher Training.

1. Resolved that the teachers of the staff of the practice school should be appointed only on the approval of the training school.

2. Resolved that the staff of the practice school should receive increased remuneration.

3. Resolved that until such practice school is established all teachers doing this work should receive increased remuneration.

4. Resolved that all teacher training should be under the control of the Department of Education.

5. Resolved that a College of Education in affiliation with the University of British Columbia be established under the Department of Education.

6. Resolved that provision be made in such College of Education for specific training for the positions of principal, inspector, or other supervisor.

7. Resolved that teachers required to act as critic teachers under the present system should be called together at least once or twice a year in order to secure more uniformity in critic reports.

8. Resolved that in every training school, with a view to having less attention paid to calisthenics or formal drill, there should be a course for the purpose of training teachers to conduct group games and other activities.

E. Text-books.

9. Resolved that, since much time spent in the working of Arithmetic questions is undoubtedly at the present time lost, this Federation favours the adoption of a text-book containing a choice of topics suitably arranged, and exercises suitably graded, and respectfully suggests that the Department of Education appoint a committee to draw up a course more closely related to life's requirements and to choose such a text-book or text-books.

10. Resolved that the Department of Education be requested to provide new text-books in British and Canadian History that will present the subject matter in line with the present programme of studies.

11. Resolved that the Department of Education be asked to have a teacher's handbook prepared appropriate to the study of Nature in British Columbia Schools.

F. Superior School Promotion.

12. That the Department of Education be asked to consider the advisability of promoting pupils in superior schools from Grade 8 to Grade 9, on the recommendation of a committee composed of the principal of the superior school in question, and the provincial inspector of the district, as is at present done in public schools of four or more divisions.

G. School Curriculum.

13. That the course in History should be the same in the fifth and sixth grades, alternating Canadian and British History in alternate terms, but arranging to have the same work taught in all schools in the same terms.

14. That the Education Department should prepare a course of lessons in History, written in words the children can understand, to be used as a text-book for individual study in the fifth and sixth grades.

15. That a combined course in Geography should also be arranged for the above two grades and a simply written text-book be prepared or selected for them.

H. Home Economics.

The following resolutions were adopted by the Provincial Home Economics Section, and were presented to the Annual General Meeting. It was decided to refer these to the Chairman of the Public School Section, and the incoming Executive, for the purpose of obtaining fuller information before taking up the resolutions with the Department of Education.

1. That the Department of Education be approached to supply a free text-book for Home Economics in the Elementary Schools of the Province, the said text to be compiled by a committee elected by Home Economics teachers.

2. That a course in clothing and nutrition work be put into the Normal School in Vancouver at the very earliest date.

The following resolutions were submitted by the Executive to the Annual General Meeting, and were passed as presented:

Safety Education.

That we ask the Department of Education to require teachers to inculcate the idea of safety in traffic and industry and also of fire prevention in their treatment of all subjects where this is possible.

Hygiene Course.

That we recommend that the incoming Executive appoint a committee to investigate the adequacy of the present course in Hygiene, and the desirability of introducing the text-books on "Hygiene" and "Human Physiology" by Ritchie & Caldwell, or any others that may be brought to the attention of the committee.

An Appreciation.

That we express to the Department of Education our thanks for their generous assistance towards the success of our Convention, and our appreciation of the reception tendered us at the Parliament Buildings.

The following resolution was submitted by the North Vancouver Teachers' Association to the Annual General Meeting, and was referred to the incoming Executive for further action:

Care of Feebleminded.

Whereas feeblemindedness, besides being a problem affecting the educational system of the Province, is a great source of inefficiency throughout the entire social and industrial structure, be it resolved that the British Columbia Teachers' Federation pledge itself to support the Government in any movement for the provision of greater facilities for the care of the feebleminded in British Columbia, particularly in the establishment of a Parental Home.

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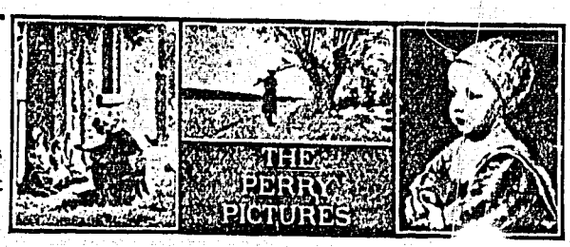

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Resolutions for the Annual General Meeting

Consideration of resolutions to be presented to the Annual Meeting was next taken up:

1. Federation Fees

It was unanimously resolved: That the fees due on March 1st, 1927, covering the period to February 29th, 1928, shall be according to the present scale, namely:

Scale of Fees:

FOR SALARY OF:—	
$1,000 or under	$ 5.00
$1,001 - $1,250	7.00
$1,251 - $1,500	8.00
$1,501 - $2,000	9.00
$2,001 - $2,500	10.00
$2,501 - $3,000	11.00
$3,001 and over	12.00

2. Fees to Cover Change of Year in 1928

It was unanimously resolved: That the fees due on March 1st, 1928, shall be either:

(a) Four-tenths of the annual scale covering a period to June 30th, 1928, or

(b) Fourteen-tenths of the annual scale covering a period to June 30th, 1929.

3. Vote of Condolence

The assembled meeting stood in silent tribute while the following vote of condolence was passed:

"That we express to the families of the late Miss M. A. Bernice Pope, Miss L. E. Frith, Miss L. M. Mills, Mrs. Edith Baron, Mr. H. J. Francis, Miss F. J. Close, Miss H. L. Macdonald, Mr. E. Howard Russell, Mr. L. B. Brown and Mr. W. C. Mitchell, our deep regret at the loss of our esteemed colleagues, and our sincere sympathy with those bereft."

4. Votes of Thanks

The following resolutions were carried unanimously:

(a) That we convey to the Board of School Trustees of Victoria our thanks for the use of the Victoria High School for our Convention, and our appreciation of their readiness to assist us in every way.

(b) That we express our indebtedness to the Victoria Teachers' Association for the thoroughness with which it has carried out all the local arrangements, and for the care and thought for our enjoyment and comfort that has been evidenced all through the Convention.

(c) That we express our appreciation to the Press of the city for the able way in which our meetings have been reported.

The University of British Columbia

EIGHTH SUMMER SESSION
BEGINNING JULY 4TH, 1927

THE attention of all teachers is directed to the following features:

1. Courses in subjects qualifying for the degree of B.A. Beginning with this year credit in the Fourth Year of the Arts Course may be taken by students who have already completed the work of the first three years.

2. Special courses for teachers: These will include:

   (a) Courses, elementary and advanced, in Educational Measurements.

   (b) A course in Junior High School Organization and Methods by Professor Wilford M. Aikin, of St. Louis, Mo.

   (3) A course in French Phonetics designed especially to meet the needs of high school teachers of French and others who desire to perfect themselves in the mastery of spoken French.

Other interesting features will be outlined in the Summer Session Announcement shortly to be issued. For special information address—

THE DIRECTOR OF SUMMER SESSION,
UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA,
VANCOUVER, BRITISH COLUMBIA.

(d) That we express our thanks to the various persons who have contributed papers, demonstrated lessons, etc., to the Convention.

5. Contribution to the C.T.F. "World Federation Convention Fund."

In connection with the expenses of the World Conference to be held in Toronto, the following resolution was passed unanimously

"That the Executive of the British Columbia Teachers' Federation, after ascertaining the amounts raised by Local Associations and Unattached members, use its discretion in making up from the Federation funds the sum of $1000 for the C. T. F. guarantee toward the expenses of the World Federation Conference."

6. Thanks to Retiring President

Mr. E. H. Lock, paid a very fitting tribute to the services rendered to the Federation during the year by President Clark, and moved, seconded by Mr. L. B. Boggs, "That a hearty vote of thanks be extended to the retiring President, Mr. G. W. Clark, for his past year of service." This was carried unanimously, amid applause.

Executive Meeting of the B.C.T.F.

The newly-elected members of the Executive Committee of the British Columbia Teachers' Federation was held in the Empress Hotel, Victoria, B. C., on Thursday evening, April 21st, commencing at 7:30 o'clock, for the purpose of organizing for the year. The first business was the appointment of further Executive members in accordance with the Constitution. The following were therefore duly added to the Executive Committee:

Geographical Representatives

Northern B. C. ..... Miss M. Macdonald (Prince Rupert)
Fraser Valley ..... Mr. W. G. Gamble (Mission.)

Co-Opted Members

Miss N. M. McKillican ..... Victoria
Mr. G. S. Ford ..... New Westminster
Mr. A. M. Macdonald ..... Point Grey
Mr. W. F. Houston ..... Vancouver
Mr. G. A. Fergusson ..... Vancouver

The representatives for New Westminster, Burnaby, and for West Kootenay Districts were not appointed, it being decided to leave this matter over until the next Executive meeting, to give opportunity for

consultation with the Associations of each district.

Vice-President

Mr. T. W. Woodhead, Principal of Kitsilano Public School, Vancouver, was elected unanimously as Vice-President for the ensuing year.

Secretary-Treasurer

Mr. W. F. Houston, of the High School of Commerce, Vancouver, was elected unanimously as Secretary-Treasurer for the ensuing year.

Finance Committee

Mr. G. S. Ford, of New Westminster, was appointed Chairman of the Finance Committee, and the other elected members were:

Miss N. M. McKillican, Victoria; Mr. A. H. Webb, Nanaimo; Mr. W. F. Houston, Vancouver.

Constitution and By-Laws Committee

Mr. J. G. Lister, Vancouver, was appointed Chairman of the Constitution and By-laws Committee, with Mr. D. E. Davidson, West Vancouver, and Mr. L. B. Boggs, Penticton, as the other members.

Federation Education Committee

Mr. G. A. Fergusson was reappointed Chairman of the Education Committee, with power to name his own Committee.

Editorial Board

As Mr. W. H. Morrow, former Chairman of the Board, had now become President of the Federation, it was decided that Mr. T. W. Woodhead should be Chairman of the Editorial Board for 1927-28, and that the balance of the personnel of the Board should be appointed by the Chairman in consultation with the President and the Managing Editor.

Superannuation Committee

Mr. G. W. Clark, was appointed Chairman of the Superannuation Committee, to appoint his own Committee in consultation with the President.

After routine business in connection with a few details remaining from the Convention and Annual meeting, the Executive meeting adjourned at 9 p.m.

Harry Charlesworth,
General Secretary.

Diggonism—"Life holds much for the man who seeks much." Diggons, printers, stationers and engravers, 1210 Government Street, Victoria, B. C. Roneo Duplicators and Supplies. Steel Furniture. L. C. Smith Typewriters. Vancouver Island Representatives.

Important Amendments to the Public Schools Act

(Synopsis from General Secretary's Annual Report)

AT THE LAST session of the Legislature, several important amendments to the "Public Schools Act" were passed.

Many of these dealt with matters of an administrative nature along the lines recommended by the Education Survey, e.g.: Provision of Rural High School Areas; Technical School Area; establishment of Technical Schools; Constitution of Municipal Inspectorial Districts; appointment and duties of Municipal Inspectors; the Fixing and Collection of Tuition Fees; provision for payment of a member of a Board of School Trustees, where it is necessary for him to act as Secretary; etc.

There were three amendments of vital interest to all teachers, and these should be most carefully noted:

1. Concerning sick-pay allowance:—

Section 133 of said chapter 226 is amended by striking out clause (i) of subsection (1), and substituting therefor the following:—

(i) To allow a teacher who is absent from class-room duties owing to his illness or unavoidable quarantine leave of absence on full pay for the period of his absence, subject to the production of a certificate of such illness or quarantine signed by a duly qualified medical practitioner, if required by the Board, but not exceeding the aggregate allowance in any year of one day for each month taught by him in the service of the Board during that year: Provided, in the case of a teacher whose leave of absence under this clause in any year is less than the aggregate allowance for that year hereinbefore provided, and who continues in the service of the same Board, the allowance of leave of absence for that teacher shall be treated as cumulative to the extent of fifty per centum of the part of the aggregate allowance unused, and in the event of his illness or unavoidable quarantine in a subsequent year his leave of absence may, in the discretion of the Board, be extended for the whole or any part of the allowance so accumulated in addition to the allowance otherwise available for the current year, but not to exceed a total leave of absence of thirty teaching days in any year."

Explanations:

The main changes are:—

(a) "Unavoidable quarantine," is now included and allowance paid as in the case of sickness.

(b) A medical certificate may be required by the Board. This is obviously a necessary safeguard and the Federation has always been willing that such a provision should be available to cover the

few cases where any doubt might exist as to the necessity for absence. And also to protect teachers generally from any charge of malingering. It should be noted that a certificate is not required in all cases but only upon request by the Board, for there are often times when a brief illness does not require medical attention, and yet it is impossible for the teacher to attend school.

(c) The provision that 10 days' allowance per year be granted to each teacher who should be ill for that period is now changed in its application so that only those teachers who remain in the service of the Board during the year are entitled to the full ten days. In other cases there will be allowed one day for each month taught in the service of the Board. This can best be explained by a concrete practical application.

A teacher ill in June of this year and absent for ten days, would be entitled to the full ten days' sick allowance, if she had taught in the service of the same Board since September last and had not previously been absent during the school year through sickness.

A teacher, however, absent ten days, say in April, would only have been in the service of the Board for eight months of the School year, and hence would only be entitled **at the time of sickness** to eight days' sick allowance. For each further month she remained with the same Board, however, she would be entitled to an extra day's allowance, so that at the end of June, she would receive the two further days' allowance, making her full ten days for the year.

Again, a teacher absent in December, would have an allowance of only four days **at that time.** The other six would be available upon completion of the other months of the school year until June, if she remained with the same Board. Should she, however, resign at Christmas and go to another Board, she would not have any further claim upon her former Board, but would, if ill again, be entitled to one day for each month taught under the new Board.

Previously a few teachers have received ten days' sick-pay from a Board, during the four months before Christmas, and again a further allowance (upon a second illness) from another Board in the six months following Christmas, making a total of twenty days for the year. Another teacher taught only three days in September, was paid for three days plus ten days' sick allowance, thirteen days in all, at the end of September, and then resigned her position at that date, thus receiving thirteen days' salary for three days' teaching.

It was in order to prevent these things, which were never intended to be included, that the present change was made.

(d) The "cumulative sick pay allowance" to the extent of thirty teaching days is not now compulsory, but optional on the part of the Boards.

This is the most important change made, and has been requested by the Trustees' Association on several occasions. The Boards have always contended that the privilege of "Cumulative Allowance" was granted originally without their knowledge, and that they should have been consulted upon such a drastic departure. They felt that they should have been allowed discretion in dealing with cases of serious illness, and they had strong objection to being forced to deal similarly with every case irrespective of its real merits.

The Federation, when asking for the "Cumulative Allowance,"

did so because it believed the principle was thoroughly fair and sound. Contrary to what has often been said, the Federation did not work secretly with the idea of "putting something over on the Trustees." The whole matter was decided on its merits. The amendment necessarily had to pass three readings in the Legislature, and also go through Committee, and it surely was not the Federation's responsibility if the Trustees were not aware of what was being recommended to the House.

However, this legislation has been responsible for much misunderstanding and has prevented to some degree that spirit of mutual confidence and co-operation which should exist between the Trustees' organization and our own. In view of this fact, the Federation, through the General Secretary, discussed the whole situation with the President of the Trustees' Association, and as a consequence of the recommendation of the General Secretary arising from such discussion, it was later decided by the Federation Executive that the best interests of both bodies would be served by the removal of the compulsory clause and the substitution of the optional "cumulative payment."

In coming to this decision the Federation was actuated by

(1.) A sincere desire to remove the evident cause of so much mistaken criticism of the Federation's previous action, and thus to aid in restoring a feeling of goodwill and harmony.

(2) The fact that there was agreement by the Trustees that the ten days' allowance per year, should be retained as compulsory.

(3) The fact that the Trustees had claimed that they had no desire of being unfair and that they did not object to making extra payments in cases of serious illness, where the circumstances of service, and previous records showed such to be merited.

In this connection, it is pleasing to note, that one of the Boards which objected strenuously to the compulsory payment, has under the new regulation, already made an extended allowance quite equal to the previous arrangement, to one of its older teachers who has been seriously ill for some time.

II. Concerning duties of teachers, re Normal teacher training.

Section 152 of said chapter 226 is amended by striking out the word "instructors" in the seventh line of clause (k), as enacted by section 16 of the "Public Schools Act Amendment Act, 1925," and substituting therefor the word "Department."

Explanation.

In the old Act, teachers were required "to render without additional remuneration or salary, such assistance to the students and instructors of such schools and training class (e.g. Normal Schools and University Teacher-training class) as the **instructors** may consider necessary for the proper training of the students."

It is now changed to read "such assistance, etc., as the **Department** may consider necessary, etc."

There was a natural objection taken by the teachers generally to being placed under the additional authority of the instructors of the teacher-training institutions. Upon representation to the Department, this objection was recognized, and the authority was

III. Concerning Release of Teachers from Engagement in Certain Cases.

Section 152 of said chapter 226 is amended by striking out the word "Trustees," in the second line, the words "has been so engaged for a period of more than two months, and."

Explanation:

This is a very important change, and was quite acceptable to the Federation, for it is clearly designed to prevent any teacher from taking undue technical advantage of a provision designed in the general interest of all teachers, as a few had previously done. As is known, teachers have been able to secure release from any Board between the 31st day of May and the first day of August, or between the 30th day of November and the 16th day of December, upon securing appointment with any other Board. This has been a provision of advantage both to teachers and Boards, but unfortunately it has been abused by a few individuals, who made two or three moves during such period, where such was clearly never intended.

For example, a teacher engaged with Board A in May, obtained an appointment with Board B early in June, and so secured liberation from Board A. Later in June, he obtained a still better offer from Board C, and so he resigned from Board B (for whom he had never actually taught) and engaged with Board C. In another case, a further change was still made, and the teacher ended up with Board D, leaving at least two very rightly dissatisfied Boards, to at least think, if not say, uncomplimentary things about teachers and their moral obligations, casting an undeserved reflection upon the whole profession. The amendment now in force, will prevent this abuse, and in future a teacher can only secure liberation from a Board by whom he has been engaged as a teacher for a period of more than two months. This means that a teacher can only make one such move at the end of any term.

Hence it is important that a teacher should exercise great care in accepting an appointment and having accepted it, he must remain to fulfil his obligations, unless he can (as provided for in Section 154) obtain the consent of his new Board to his liberation, the new Board having complete option to consent or not as they see fit.

The new section, 153, now reads as follows:

Where any person engaged as teacher under appointment by a Board of School Trustees has been so engaged for a period of more than two months and receives between the thirty-first day of May and the first day of August, or the thirtieth day of November and the sixteenth day of December, in any year, an appointment as teacher from any other Board of School Trustees, or an appointment as officer in the Department of Education, then, upon his giving notice of such appointment to the first-mentioned Board of School Trustees, before the said first day of August or sixteenth day of December, as the cast may be, accompanied by satisfactory evidence of his having accepted such appointment, he shall be released from his engagement with that Board.

In Memoriam

Miss M. A. Bernice Pope

IN THE death of Miss M. A. Bernice Pope, whose passing came with tragic suddenness, while undergoing a very minor operation, the teaching profession of the Province has lost one of its outstanding and most successful members, and the Federation has lost a highly valued and loyal supporter.

Throughout her career in British Columbia, she not only always showed remarkable ability as a teacher, but she was at the same time always herself an enthusiastic student. Her one aim in life was to make herself ever more efficient, by improving her own academic and professional training, so that she might give of her best to those students committed to her care.

After several years' teaching in the grades of the Public Schools in Victoria, she resigned and left for the Santa Barbara College of Home Economics. On graduating from that institution after three years' study, she was appointed to the Home Economics Department of the Vancouver Junior High School, and in this new field her success was again very evident. Later again, in response to her desire for further improvement, she obtained leave of absence to attend the University of Washington and was enabled to complete her third year for her B.Sc. degree. This coming summer, she had planned to complete the work for this degree and a brilliant future for her seemed assured.

Her remarkable personality and vitality, together with her sincere devotion to her work, and her deep personal interest in her pupils, both past and present, won for her an enviable position amongst the hundreds of students with whom she came in contact. She was also a great lover of the "out-of-doors," and nothing so delighted her as a trip to those spots where Nature undefiled could be seen and enjoyed at its best. The birds, the running brooks, the flowers, and everything pertaining to life meant much to her.

For one year, previous to her study at the University of Washington, Miss Pope was a member of the Executive of the British Columbia Teachers' Federation and rendered excellent service in this connection.

After her first Executive meeting, she wrote to the office a

letter, characteristic of her, in which she set down her impressions of the magnificent work accomplished by the meeting, and also her sincere appreciation of the privilege she had so enjoyed, of broadening her own professional outlook by association with those executive members who had long been rendering such valuable service to the teaching profession of B. C. She said that she was happy and proud to be one of the representatives of the women teachers of the Province, and that her only regret was that it was not possible for every individual teacher to take a part in such Executive work, and so obtain the vision and new inspiration which she herself had received even from just the one meeting.

Gratitude for opportunities, and a desire to share them with others, were always prominent traits of Miss Pope's character.

Miss Pope was one of a family, whose name is, and always will be, honoured by educationalists in British Columbia. Her father, Dr. S. D. Pope, was for many years Superintendent of Education for the Province, while her sister, Mrs. J. M. H. Harding is a well-known teacher on the Vancouver staff. Her brother, Mr. N. F. Carey Pope, has also been for many years, Secretary of the Victoria School Board.

At the opening Convention session, the assembly stood in silent tribute during the passing of a vote of condolence with her mother and members of her family in their sad bereavement, while the Home Economics Section, to which Miss Pope belonged, cancelled their opening meeting and attended in a body at her funeral, where the many expressions of sympathy and the beautiful floral tributes bore silent but eloquent testimony of the high esteem and regard in which she was held by the large numbers who mourn her loss.

The World Federation Conference in Toronto

(By the Canadian Committee)

SO far as one can judge from the correspondence and reports which come in from all parts of the world, the Second Biennial Conference of the World Federation of Education Associations, to be held in Toronto this August, is likely to be a very great affair, both in attendance and interest. Applications are coming in daily from all over the continent for reservations in the hotels and university residences, and the committee expects to have a perfect deluge of such applications within the next few weeks. The committee would like to emphasize the necessity of prompt applications for reservations, so that none of the delegates may be disappointed. Toronto will be at the height of the tourist season during the first half of August, but the committee is anxious to accommodate all who apply in due time.

The British excursions promise to be very successful affairs. Mr. F. W. Goldstone, Secretary of the National Union of Teachers of England

and Wales, reports that the accommodation he has reserved on the C. P. R. steamer "Marloch," is being fast taken up. The folders which the N. U. T. is issuing are very attractive, and both the English and the Scottish folders speak in most eulogistic terms of the Canadian hospitality which is to be extended to our British visitors. It is quite evi from these folders that each Old Country teacher has a great esteen each Canadian, and the responsibility as Canadian teachers is obvious. Mr. Thomas Henderson, Secretary of the Educational In of Scotland, is also issuing a very attractive folder for the An Donaldson steamer "Letitia." In addition to this it is quite possible re may be two or three other similar British excursions. Altogethe ve may count on a very fine group of British teachers this summer.

The American delegation is harder to estimate as to size, bu th Dr. Thomas and Mr. Williams are very optimistic as to the wide ad interest throughout the United States, and they believe that we sh ve a very large delegation from all over the United States. Mr. Wi is also sending in the names of foreign delegates who have been dy appointed, and we are assured that almost all the countries of t rld will have some representative.

The Canadian committee has been very busily at w publicity end of the arrangements, and has prepared six follows: Bulletin No. 1, on the World Federation of Educ tions; Bulletin No. 2 on the Place of Meeting; Bulletin No. tion as to Progress; Bulletin No. 4 on Hotels and Meal 5 on Niagara Falls; and Bulletin No. 6 on the Cana Federation. The Bulletins have gone out in editions to 20,000 of each, and have gone all over the world. Th has been particularly encouraged by the response of the D Education in the British Isles, and the State and City Superintendents of the United States, who have been most cordial in their offers to circulate the Bulletins and to give wide publicity to the Federation.

Dr. Thomas writes that the programme is now rapidly taking shape, and he hopes to be able to give some general announcement of the chief features of the programme in a very short time. A very large number of main and secondary topics will be discussed by very eminent people from many countries. In connection with some of the standing committees of the World Federation, an enormous amount of preparatory work is being done, and the reports of these committees should be of unusual value.

The Canadian committee is also busy developing its organization in the form of sub-committees. Some twenty of these sub-committees are being organized with active men and women at the head to take over the detail work in connection with the preparations in handling this Conference. A large number of teachers have registered with the General Committee as willing to serve on these sub-committees, and the General Committee would be very glad indeed to have the names of all teachers throughout Canada who would like to serve during the Conference on any of these committees.

As to finances, the General Committee is pleased to report a very great interest on the part of provincial associations, and assurances that the quota allotted to each province is practically certain of being taken up. As a matter of fact, several of the provinces are quite optimistic of exceeding their quota. It is a pleasure also to report that practically all the provincial governments in Canada are rendering assistance in some form or other. In one or two cases this assistance is being confined to entertainment of delegates passing through, and in almost all the other provinces, the government is giving assistance in entertainment and a cash grant as well.

Another encouraging feature is the interest which is being taken by the provincial associations and their members in the Convention in the matter of attendance. During the Easter week, the Chairman of the General Committee had the privilege of visiting the provincial conventions in Saskatchewan and Manitoba, while other members of the committee were present at other provincial conventions. In every case the interest manifested was very decided. In the western provinces there is talk of a very large delegation of teachers being on hand, and many teachers are planning automobile tours to Toronto.

It is hardly necessary to emphasize the wonderful opportunity this Conference will afford to Canadian teachers by meeting their confreres from every part of the world. This opportunity is so great that no Canadian teacher can afford to miss it. The Canadian Committee is optimistic enough to hope that at least 2,000 Canadian teachers will be present at this Conference.

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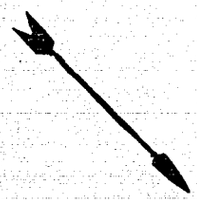

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A Development of Value to Teachers

AN EVENT of unusual interest to the teachers of British Columbia is the opening of an office in Vancouver by J. M. Dent & Sons, Ltd., of London and Toronto. This firm, well-known throughout the English-speaking world, for the manufacture and distribution of good books at minimum cost, has probably earned its widest fame through its Everyman's Library of which over twenty million copies have been sold. However, it is in the making of textbooks of exceptional quality that they are more especially serving the needs of the Western provinces from the new office. Samples of their extensive lines of books, comprising not only textbooks but works of reference and of history, fiction, poetry, science, art, and belles lettres, are on display and the firm desires to meet the teachers of B. C., to hear their suggestions and to co-operate with them in the creation of attractive and useful school books.

It is noteworthy that this firm is all-Canadian in its policies in regard to its organization here. The large staff in Toronto consists of native-born Canadians with the exception of one member and the manager, Mr. H. Button, who has resided in Canada for twenty years. The manager of the new Vancouver office, Mr. Wm. Gordon Stephen, is also a Canadian, well-known in literary circles as Secretary of the Vancouver Poetry Society, and as an active member of the Vancouver Little Theatre Association. Mr. Stephen has more than a commercial interest in books. To many years of successful business experience, he has added a student's and artist's appreciation of the best in literature, a deep interest in educational problems and a personality which finds its best expression in service of the kind which this firm gives to its patrons. Under his direction, the office of J. M. Dent & Sons, Ltd., at 207 West Hastings St., will undoubtedly be of great benefit to the teaching profession in this province.

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In Lighter Vein

The Intelligence Test Becomes Popular.

The Chairman of the Bogusville School Board, and incidentally the leading chirotonsor of the community, has been making a deep and protracted study of intelligence tests in the Sunday newspapers, and has devised a set of questions to be applied to teachers seeking appointment to the local one-room school.

This is a new venture in the educational field, and Mr. Brusshe is to be congratulated upon his progressive spirit. There is, however, no reason for anyone to be taken aback, when it is remembered that the profession of medicine found its origin in the quiet and meditative purlieus of the chirotonsorial clinic.

It would, of course, be extremely unethical to give excerpts from the test in this journal, but we may hint that no teacher can possibly gain the Bogusville appointment without a detailed knowledge of lathers and tions, and at least a bobbing acquaintance with scientific shingling. Mr. Brusshe very rightly feels that these matters are essential to any sound testing scheme, for intelligence is after all a thing not of the heart, but of the head. He says in effect that we have been one-sided in our assault upon the cerebrum—to the neglect of the outside—and that only cerebration of the highest order can induce the capilli to lie harmoniously along the medulla oblongata.

He further states that he is giving consideration to a plan for endowing a Chair of Chirotonsorics in U. B. C.; and expects to raise the money by a poll-tax upon the bald, with a graduated surtax upon the bearded, at the rate of something like a dollar an inch; but it is only fair to point out the probable adverse effect of the former tax upon the theatrical business.

Let's All Be Doctors.

In the increasing welter of academic distinctions, there has come to be a certain dignity in the unadorned title of Mister. The Bachelor's degree begins to approximate to the position where — "few escape it." And as for post-graduate degrees, the very sky is darkened by their multitude. With Doctors of Divinity ministering to our spiritual needs, Doctors of Medicine operating upon our appendixes and purses, Doctors of Dentistry pulling out our teeth, Doctors of Chiropractic pounding our backbones, Doctors of Philosophy destroying our pet theories, and Doctors of Paedagogy smiling at our teaching methods—to say nothing about Doctors of Laws, Literature and Public Health—is it any wonder that we become a bit discouraged about our own relative setting?

Not for the world would I question the value of all this profound scholarship. No doubt it is all very necessary. But I am distinctly worried about the waning prestige of the ordinary mortal; and so, after

prolonged thought I am making a few modest proposals.

The B.A. degree may do very well for the academic high school; but he junior high school makes a sterner demand—a Master's degree at st—and the elementary school, being the most fundamental, should be ed throughout with Doctors of Philosophy and Paedagogy. Under new conditions it would perhaps be better for university professors ve degrees alone, and content themselves with a sound matriculation ing.

it is a mystery to me how primary teachers have got along so well out post-graduate work in the philosophy of number, and special ected studies in the origins of language. But doubtless this is due luck.

The Intellect is Applied to Sport.

I cannot sufficiently admire a recent development in school al letics; I mean the serious spirit of professionalism which is so charmingly exemplified in some of the young men who administer these activities. Dropping in quite unofficially at a Sports Committee meeting—at Victouver in the Kootenagan to be exact—I was astonished and delighted to find myself in an ultra-violet atmosphere of legal acerbity; and listened with enchantment to the refinements of argument, the tenuous web of technical reasoning, and the subtlety of strategem which enlivened the proceedings. One youth, whose age could not have been more than twenty, was so thoroughly imbued with the spirit of the meeting, and manifested such a forensic gift, that I felt him to be wasted in our peaceful profession.

Weights and measures were dealt with in terms of the most painstaking exactitude, and no decision was arrived at without eloquent objection. Indeed, I am bound to admit that such mathematical precison for a moment amazed me; but my companion, a former member of the B. C. F. A., pointed out that each special pleader had particular players in mind, and added that now-a-days most championships are won in committee.

There is no doubt that we live in a wonderful age! Would it not be possible to carry the process one step farther by appointing three judges to decide the result of the committee meeting, and so do away with the need of games altogether? Such a course would leave committee members much more free to prepare material for a brief; and in the meantime the children might pursue their own amateurish ends.

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Boys "Goodwill" Conference in Finland

By WALTER S. OWEN, *Representative of British Columbia Boys at the Conference.*

In connection with the Nineteenth Annual Conference of Y. M. C.A. workers, held in Helsingfors, Finland, last year, fifteen hundred delegates, under 21 years of age, met in Convention to consider the responsibility of youth and the Christian way of life in social and international relations in a changing world. Canada was represented by five delegates, one of them being Walter S. Owen, who gives the following summary of the ideas and ideals of the gathering. Mr. Owen has been prominently connected with the "Boys Parliament" movement, having been the first Premier of such Parliament in this Province.

IF WE approach Goodwill Day with a true conception of all that that term implies, our thoughts are necessarily far in advance of our actions.

For centuries, man has settled his differences with man through the medium of war and as his powers of construction have developed so have his powers of destruction, reaching what we hope was its climax in the Great War, 1914-1918. This was confidently predicted to be the last war of all and indeed the great majority of the nations of the world have shown their good faith by active participation in the League of Nations which has been responsible for the peaceful settlement of at least eight international complications any one of which might set the world aflame once more. But today, the world appears not yet to have learned by its bitter experiences, and trouble appears predominant on the map of world politics.

Until recent years, no suitable substitute had been seriously suggested for that of war, but in August, 1926, a super structure of international fellowship, racial understanding, and religious and cultural tolerance was reared upon a firm foundation of unity of purpose by a determined assembly of 1500 men, young men and boys representing fifty nations, five colours and every culture and school of thought in addition to almost every creed. There was a real World Brotherhood here and the group discussion plan wherein fifty miniature world's of thirty individuals representing a cross section in colour language and culture provided a forum in which the viewpoints of all could be expressed and an international understanding and mind developed which will become a real factor in world relations.

The dominant thought of youth today should be and is to build together a new world not dominated by the White Nordic or the Asiatic or the Teuton, but a structure created by many men, stations

and races. We must cultivate the temper of mind which is more truly national as it is international more truly racial as it is inter-racial, and deeper by reason of its breadth. Helsingfors was a revelation of unity of spirit with difference of opinion. As a youth from Czecho-Slovakia said, pointing to his head, "very extraordinary different here," and, pointing to his heart, "very extraordinary same here." No one expects the young Canadian to adopt the Chinese customs of life nor may we expect them to embrace in toto the peculiarities of our race but in the words of Dr. Herman Lui of China, "if we only understood China and they us," how quickly some of our mutual problems would disappear. Tabias, the great American negro, said: "The negro has emerged from two hundred and fifty years of slavery and still he has no bitterness in his heart or no desire for revenge, but only a wish to live a life of freedom such as is enjoyed by his white brother." After all, every man, be he white, black, brown, yellow or red, is God-created and thereby entitled to freedom—not merely physical but mental and moral also.

The whole peace of the world today is dependent on the attitude of one man towards the other. We of the white race must express that racial prejudice which seems to grow on us as we grow in years. Each race and each nation has its peculiar contribution to make to the welfare of the world if given its inherent right of self expression. May Goodwill Day inaugurate goodwill year, the triumphant commencement of a truly goodwill age.

Pitman Progress in Canada 20 Per Cent. in Five Years

FIGURES recently published by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics show that of 8,559 students learning nine different systems of shorthand in private Business Colleges in 1925, no less than 6,225, or 73 per cent., learned Pitman Shorthand.

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MINISTER OF EDUCATION REPLIES TO WIRELESS MESSAGE FROM THE CHILDREN OF WALES

The Hon. Dr. MacLean, Minister of Education, replied to the wireless message received in British Columbia from the children of Wales by broadcasting on Goodwill Day, May 18th, the following greeting:

"On behalf of this Western Province of Canada, I send greetings to the children of Wales, and earnestly thank them for their inspiring message to the peoples of all nations, to spare no effort to perpetuate the ideal of World Peace and International Goodwill. This sentiment is enthusiastically reciprocated by the Children of British Columbia.

(Signed) J. D. MacLEAN,
Minister of Education."

Arrangements were made for the message to be relayed to Wales by courtesy of C.N.R.V. Station, Vancouver.

CONGRATULATIONS—

We extend our hearty congratulations to Mr. E. S. Martin of Fernie, B. C., upon the distinction of winning the Alexander Laird Scholarship in English at Queen's University. One of the most gratifying features of our Federation lies in the fact that so many of those who have taken a prominent part in our organization have at the same time, won high honors in the educational field. This, in itself, is testimony of the excellent leadership which we have always been fortunate enough to obtain, and which has given our organization such a high professional standing.

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RESEARCH COMMITTEE REPORT

An interesting report on the results of acceleration of pupils has reached the chairman of the Research Committee from Mr. A. H. Webb, Principal of Nanaimo Public Schools.

Mr. Webb speaks of pupils whose work he has watched for some three years and submits the following figures.

Accelerated Pupils standing among the first ten in their classes

Pupils accelerated once	146
Pupils accelerated twice	69
Pupils accelerated three times	5
TOTAL	220

Accelerated Pupils standing among the first ten in their classes	121 or 55.0%
Accelerated Pupils among the first twenty	179 or 81.4%
Accelerated Pupils from 21 to 30	40 or 18.0%
Accelerated Pupils weak but may go forward on trial	10 or 4.5%
Accelerated Pupils who will not be able to grade until some time after the end of term	4 or under 2.0%

The above figures speak well for the academic standing of these accelerated pupils. The following figures submitted by the school nurse are also of interest.

Underweights in whole accelerated group	42.0%
Underweights in group accelerated more than once	39.0%
Underweights in whole school	51.9%
Accelerated Pupils free from defects	77.6%
Pupils Accelerated more than once and free from defects	82.6%

Mr. Webb's figures seem to indicate no ill effects of acceleration from either academic or health point of view. He suggests probable loss from de-socialization of these very young pupils amongst older ones. The Research Committee would welcome other contributions to the discussion of this subject.

To Teachers Attending the University Summer Session

First Class BOARD and RESIDENCE may be obtained at the Alpha Gamma Phi Fraternity House, situated a few minutes' walk from the University gates.

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The Health of Teachers

Absence of teachers from school on account of sickness, as compared with records of industrial workers and clerical groups, seems to indicate the superior health of teachers. Contrary to general belief, statistics show that the teacher is not more subject to diseases of the respiratory organs than other indoor workers, nor to diseases of the digestive organs. In regard to nervous diseases, however, and especially neurasthenia, or nervous exhaustion, records are not so favorable to the teacher, according to a study of the health of the teacher, made by Dr. James F. Rogers, chief, division of physical education and school hygiene, published by the United States Bureau of Education, in "School Health Journal, No. 12." Among teachers of New York City, neurasthenia is found to increase with age up to 45-54 years. In London, England, and in Victoria, Australia, the percentage of teachers suffering from this disease increased threefold from the time of entering service until the age of 50 was reached. The average number of days lost by London teachers increased three times during these years, the increase being most marked among single women. The only other disease in which there was a marked increase was rheumatism.

Commissioner's Report on Ontario Superannuation Fund

According to the Report of the Commissioners on the Teachers' and Inspectors' Superannuation Fund for the fiscal year ending October 31st, 1926, presented at the recent meeting of the Ontario Educational Association, the total number of teachers on the pension list at the end of December, 1926, was 638. Ninety-three teachers had been placed on the fund during 1926. With regard to additional benefits that may be looked forward to, the Report has this statement: "The next actuarial investigation will take place as on July 1st, 1927, and if the required information is made available to the actuary with the delays that have occurred at previous investigations, the report should be ready for the next meeting of the Ontario Educational Association in 1928. Your commissioners are hopeful that one or both of the following benefits may be brought into effect within the next year or two, (a) A reduction of the number of years' service, at present 40 years, to qualify for a pension; (b) An increase in the maximum pension beyond $1000. It must not be forgotten that the large initial deficit has not yet been wiped out, though it is decreasing year by year, and no changes can be made

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in the benefits that will cause the deficit to increase instead of decrease." .. .. .. "The actuary has not yet made a report on the practicability of pensions for widows and orphans of male teachers."

WHAT SHOULD WE TEACH

"Teach the fundamentals in education. Interpret life in terms of life; combine books and things, work and study. Teach honor, duty, truth, courage, faith, hope, love of home and of country; reverence for God, and for each other and for all His lowly creatures.

Teach reading, writing and arithmetic, of course, but not as fundamentals, except as in the learning one is taught to read fine things, to write beautiful thoughts, and to know that in the fundamentals of life, the sum of one's happiness cannot be obtained by subtracting from others; and that the way to multiply the sum of one's possessions is to divide them with others, especially with those in need.

"Teach that which gives intelligence and skill; but forget not soul culture, for out of this comes the more abundant life, bringing forth the fruits of the spirit. Teach art and music and literature; reveal beauty and truth, inculcate social and civil ideals."

—President Condon, at the meeting of the Department of Superintendence at Dallas.

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ELECTION OF PRESIDENT (Continued from Page 17)

North Vancouver District..... Mr. D. E. Davidson, West Vancouver
South Vancouver and Point Grey..... Mr. F. A. Armstrong, S. Van.
East Kootenay..... Mr. E. S. Martin, Fernie
West Kootenay..... No nomination
Northern British Columbia..... No nomination
Fraser Valley..... No nomination
New Westminster and Burnaby..... No nomination
Vancouver..... Mr. T. W. Woodhead
Okanagan Valley..... Mr. L. B. Boggs
Thompson Valley..... Mr. R. W. McGowan

Additional Representatives on the Executive

Life Member..... Mr. J. G. Lister, Vancouver
Past President..... Mr. G. W. Clark, Vancouver
High School Provincial Section..... Mr. J. F. deMacedo, Nanaimo
Home Economics Section..... Miss B. S. Dickinson, South Vancouver
Manual Training Section..... Mr. D. P. McCallum, Vancouver

It was explained that in districts where no nominations had been made, the Executive had power to appoint representatives, and that in addition the Executive also was required to co-opt five additional members.

LITTLE BROWN EYES

Oh Little Brown Eyes, with the far-away look,
Now what are you thinking today,
Away over there at the foot of the class,
Without ever a word to say?

It may be you dream of the sweet might-have-been,
If you could have had your fond wish,
The old swimming pool, oh, so deep and so cool,
Or the bank where you'd sit and fish.

Or is it the book that you read just last night,
Of life on the wild roaring main,
Where dashing with glee o'er a wild angry sea,
You do battle with tempests again?

Or maybe you're seeing the little back shed
With wheels and a long spool of twine,
A tumble-down engine, some bolts, nuts and screws,
And a piece of Dad's old fishing line.

Oh Little Brown Eyes, with the far away look,
How wise we would all be today,
To watch and encourage, instead of just scold,
When you hurry away to your play.

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THAT is a pretty sentiment, but that's all—so far as British Columbia is concerned.

We have a host of enthusiasts ready to espouse the cause of Forestry with only a very superficial knowledge of the subject, who advocate the planting of trees. Actually, the planting of trees (we are speaking, of course, of commercial trees) is entirely unnecessary in British Columbia.

Nor have we any lack of Jeremiahs, beating upon their breasts and wailing in public places, "Ichabod, Ichabod; our glory is departed. Our forests are becoming a thing of the past, and nothing is being done about it."

There is an entirely erroneous idea current in a number of other places that Forestry in British Columbia is an abstruse proposition and entirely over the head of the average citizen. Really, nothing could be further from the truth.

As a plain matter of fact, our commercial trees grow much more readily than the flowers in your garden. The very forests which are the mainspring of our industry today began to grow entirely of their own accord countless ages ago—sprang up, in fact, right in the wake of the receding ice-cap. They were already ancient when prehistoric man first ventured timidly into their gloomy depths, and were old beyond computation when civilization dawned upon this Continent! They have been growing, growing, growing through all those dim centuries right down to the present day without any assistance from man, and they will continue to grow if man will only refrain from hindering. That's all Nature asks of us—"Please don't hinder."

Forestry in British Columbia is a matter of bare fundamentals.

"A"—PREVENT FOREST FIRES.

"B"—Use wisely; don't waste.

"C"—Give Nature a chance.

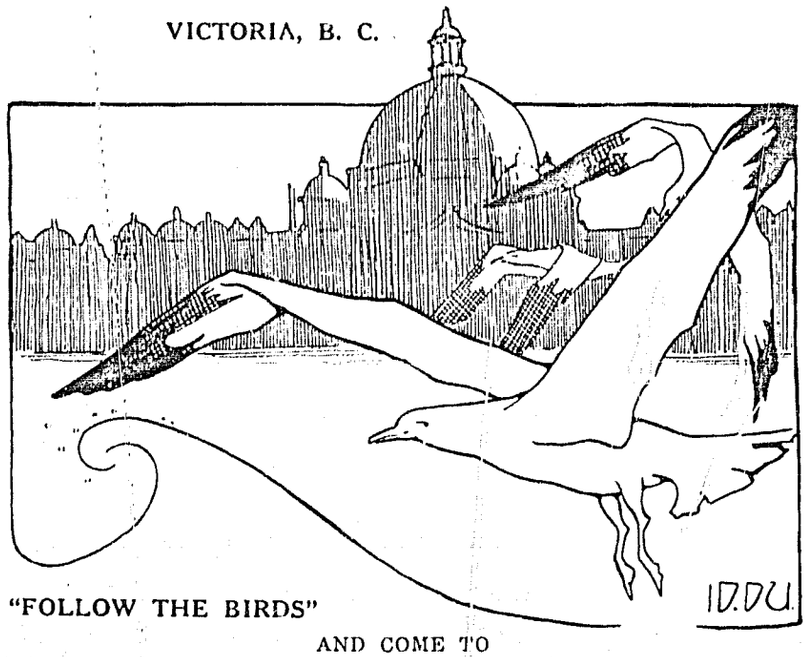
Go to any logged-off area and you will find the Forest is beginning to re-establish itself. Let a farmer abandon his farm, even, and how quickly the Forest absorbs it!

With "B" and "C" the general public are less intimately concerned; these come more or less within the province of the trained Forester. But every man, woman and child can help in the furthering of "A," which is the first and most important fundamental of them all.

"Canadian Forest Week" is over for this year, and it is the earnest hope of those responsible for seeing it through that by and by, as the young people of today grow up and begin to assume their responsibilities as citizens, the need for "Canadian Forest Week" will disappear. We feel sure that it will. Pulpit, Press and Public Platform all lend their aid, and lend it willingly, to help in spreading the gospel of Forest Protection, but as powerful an ally is the Teacher, through whose hands must pass, in the formative years of their lives, the citizens of tomorrow.

PROVINCIAL DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

VICTORIA, B. C.



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