

therefore recommends that the report be not now finally adopted, but that it be referred back to the same Committee for further consideration and conference with the Model School Section and Inspectors' Department.

Rev. Mr. Somerville having accepted the amendment in lieu of the original motion to adopt, the amended motion was carried unanimously.

III.—“*The High School Law of 1891, including the Regulations.*” This subject was introduced by Mr. John Ball Dow, B.A., of Whitby, who read the following paper on “The Working of the High School Law of 1891” :—

THE WORKING OF THE HIGH SCHOOL LAW OF 1891.

I take this subject to mean the working of the “High Schools Act, 1891,” and in so far only as the said Act has made changes of a material kind in the former law and regulations governing High Schools and Collegiate Institutes. I shall, therefore, confine my observations to those portions of the Act which are new.

The important changes effected by the Act of 1891 have reference to, first, the system of support or maintenance of High Schools; second, fees chargeable to pupils; third, the composition of the Board of Entrance Examiners. With regard to the first, let me point out in the first place that the changes in the system of support or maintenance to be found in the Act of 1891 are very largely, if not wholly, the result of the repeated, persistent, and well-sustained efforts of this Department, and the forcible representation of its views upon the subject to the Department of Education. At the meeting of the Trustees' Association, held in November, 1887, the following resolution was introduced and carried unanimously, namely:

Moved by Judge Bell, seconded by Rev. G. G. McRobbie, and resolved,—“That the Provincial Association of Public and High School Trustees recommend to the Government that, in view of the injustice of the present system of supporting High Schools and Collegiate Institutes, and with a view of remedying the same, a scheme be introduced for apportioning the necessary expenses of supporting such schools on a basis similar, as near as may be, to the legislation now existing for distributing the expenses for the Administration of Justice in case of a town separating from the county for municipal purposes.”

Representations were made on behalf of the Association to the Minister of Education from time to time, pointing out the injustice of the former system, and the opinion of the Association as expressed in the resolution was reiterated, reaffirmed and emphasized from year to year with such success as is indicated in the passage of the Act of 1891. That Act certainly goes a very long way towards remedying an injustice that had existed altogether too long. A tolerably fair basis of distributing the burden of maintaining our High Schools is