

Scotia and Prince Edward Island, all endorsed the proposal in writing; while the committee had the assurance from a member of the Quebec Cabinet that that Province would offer no opposition, provided the rights of the provinces in the matter of instruction under the British North America Act were not impaired.

The possession of these letters made the Committee reasonably sure that no further trouble would be experienced; but in spite of these when the question came up in Parliament, the debate on the resolution was adjourned before anything came of it, and the Premier subsequently informed a deputation representing the Technical Education Committee that serious constitutional difficulties stood in the way.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE AT MONTREAL, 1908.

At the Convention of the Canadian Manufacturers' Association in Montreal in September of this year, this standing Technical Education Committee made a report showing the progress that had been made and recommended that the Canadian Manufacturers' Association should itself appoint a Commission of Enquiry on Industrial Education, the necessary funds to be raised by the Association by application to the Provinces and by an Association grant.

The latter part of the report of the committee dealing with the appointment of a Commission is as follows:—

"Meanwhile, the need for a thoroughly practical and broad-based system of industrial education is increasing day by day. We are failing to realize as fully as we should the importance of conserving by-products consequent upon the converting of our raw materials into merchantable products, because we make little or no effort to utilize waste. While our greatest commercial competitors are aided, by institutes of research, to derive handsome profits from the manufacture of by-products, we, through lack of those aids, are compelled to see prospective profits thrown on the scrap heap. In spite of walls of tariff protection, foreign-made goods of a kind that should be and are being made in Canada keep coming into this country and displacing those of home production, to the detriment of the Canadian artisan and the Canadian manufacturer. That this is possible is due, to a considerable extent, to the greater efficiency of the labor which the foreign manufacturer is able to command. By it his cost of production is reduced to a point away below anything that the most careful and skilful factory manager can hope to attain under present conditions in Canada.

"What makes it all the more unfortunate is that, while we, as a country, are not abreast of the times in respect of this great problem, our competitors abroad are forging further and further ahead, not simply under the stimulus of private initiative, but with the active encouragement of administrative officers. 'Progress,' says President Roosevelt, 'must consist in the development of physical labor so that it shall represent more and more the work of the trained mind in the trained body. To provide such training, to encourage in every way the production of new men whom it alone can produce is to show that we have a true conception of the dignity and importance of labor. The printer, the electrical worker, the house-painter, the foundryman should be trained just as carefully as the stenographer or drug clerk. They should get over the idea that to earn \$12 a week and call it salary is better than to earn \$25 a week and call it wages. The young man who has the courage and ability to refuse to enter the crowded field of the so-called professions, and to take to constructive industry is almost sure of an ample reward in earnings, in health, in opportunity to marry early and to establish a home, with reasonable freedom from worry. We need the training, the manual dexterity and the ind-

dustrial intelligence which can be best given in a good agricultural, or building, or textile, or mechanical school.

"When our greatest industrial competitors, as represented by their executive head, begin to look at things in this light, we Canadians can ill afford to waste further time in idleness, and it is with a view to setting the machinery in motion that your Committee beg to offer the following suggestion:

"('The constitution given the Canadian Manufacturers' Association by Act of Parliament states that 'the Association may, by by-law or resolution, provide for the appointment of committees of enquiry to enquire into any matter affecting the manufacturing, import or export interest of Canada, and such committees may examine upon oath (which oath any member of said committee is hereby empowered to administer) any party who appears before them, and the evidence so taken may be used to assist the Association in arriving at a decision with reference to the matter under consideration.' Acting upon this provision, it is suggested that the Association should itself appoint a Commission of Enquiry on Industrial Education, and appeal to the various provincial governments for assistance in carrying the undertaking through. Your Committee's idea is that there should be a working commission of three, with one corresponding member for each province; the three to be appointed by the Association, the others by the provinces contributing. It would be the duty of the working commission to visit a number of the principal industrial schools and technical colleges of the United States, France, Germany and Great Britain, to study the causes that have contributed to their success, to learn the principles governing their location, to ascertain how they are maintained, to gain an insight into their methods of instruction, to enquire into their economic effect upon surrounding industries, etc., etc. Afterwards they would be required to hold sittings in various points throughout Canada, with a view to familiarizing themselves with the requirements of local industries, and seeing how best those requirements could be met by the adaptation of foreign methods. They would also be expected to give full consideration to the constitutional aspect of the problem, and to formulate a system of industrial education for the country at large, wherein the parts to be played, respectively, by private interests, municipalities, provinces and the Federal Government would be accurately defined.

"The cost, it is believed, would not exceed \$25,000, covering a working period of not more than two years, including honorarium to the commissioners, salary of secretary and stenographer, office supplies, travelling expenses at home and abroad, and the publication of the report.

"Of this, it is believed the Association could well afford to assume \$5,000, leaving \$20,000 to be raised among the provinces.

"This proposal furnishes a basis for immediate action, and will, it is hoped, be favorably considered by the meeting."

ACTION OF THE ASSOCIATION.

The Association in convention decided to act upon this recommendation of the Committee on Technical Education, and the following committee was appointed to obtain the funds necessary for the work of the Commission: J. F. MacKay, business manager of The Globe, chairman; Alfred Burton, Thos. Findley, Harold Van der Linde, J. P. Murrav, J. S. McKinnon, W. P. Cohoe, Reg. Scarfe, J. O. Callaghan, F. J. Howell, W. J. Whitehead, S. H. Burlond, D. H. MacKay, and Frank A. Rolph.