

granting that there is a reasonable measure of fitness for their discharge, a wide field certainly exists for valuable co-operation. I cannot speak of the experience of others, but mine has been that of a desire on the part of the great majority of school trustees with whom I have had intercourse, to co-operate actively in any measures that promised to increase the efficiency of their schools. The exceptions I have met with have been so rare, that, with all the good that might be expected to result in some respects, from the substitution of Township Boards of Trustees for those of School Sections, I should be loth to see the heavy interest exhibited, and laborious, self-denying exertion put forth in many a case, for the benefit of the school by those acting as Trustees. The Co-operation of a Local Superintendent is, however, frequently called for, independent of his ordinary visits to the schools and general correspondence respecting them, at seasons when that calm, deliberate attention, can scarcely be given to matters of complaint, which they require, on account of these complaints having to be lodged at a time when other duties have to be attended to, that cannot be postponed. — Of course if that complete co-operation that is always desirable among the inhabitants of a School Section were in constant exercise, there would scarcely occur differences of opinion of such a nature as to call for complaint or appeal; but, although in general the office of School Trustee is not by any means coveted, there is scarcely a season without some exciting contest by others, to get this or that individual elected to fill it.

Local Superintendents may frequently be considered to be wanting in proper sympathy with petitioners, or with remonstrants when alterations are sought for affecting Union School Sections. This is probably inevitable under the circumstances. Such changes should certainly never be made without due deliberation, and this I have no doubt they very generally get. Like alterations on School Sections within particular Townships, the consideration of such matters is suited by Local Superintendents and Municipal Councils to be a difficult and delicate business.

The co-operation of Local Superintendents with Teachers, I would add, is of great consequence; and I must say I have found Teachers, almost without exception, most ready and willing to act on advice given—to lend their co-operation to the carrying out of measures which it was believed would benefit their schools or increase their own ability to discharge their duties with credit and success. I have found them frequently quite ready to run personal risk in securing Text Books for their scholars which they felt were needed, and which otherwise might not have been got for an indefinite period; and to be at personal outlay for Prizes when they could not be obtained in the ordinary way; and I have always found them thankful for any suggestion which might lead to the more general co-operation of others with them in their work, rendering it easier and pleasanter.

It may be well before closing these remarks, to give a brief Enfilade of the most prominent features of desirable Co-operation I have pointed out, so far as local influence, the most important of all, is concerned.

Teachers, then, will shew a wise co-operation by consistency of personal character and

conduct—by steadily progressive improvement—by attending assiduously to schoolwork in school hours—by complying with the provisions of the law in respect of legal teaching days and Text Books—by ascertaining their scholars' capacities, and striving to get a wide-awake spirit excited and maintained—by exercising discrimination, practicing patience, and manifesting fairness towards them at all times; and seeking to secure mutual improvement in intercourse with other Teachers.

Scholars will co-operate for the good of the School by diligence, perseverance, punctuality and steadiness in attendance; by being honest, truthful and considerate—by kindness to their school-fellows—good manners, and general good conduct—by keeping a watch over their tongues when tempted to say what should be unsaid—by exhibiting a respectful demeanor, and cherishing a grateful spirit towards their Teacher.

The Trustees will likewise co-operate for the good of all by cultivating harmony among themselves—by getting and keeping a good Teacher, remunerating him sufficiently, and consulting with him how best to meet the real wants of the School—by making requisite security, keeping circumstantial details of all expenditure, employing competent Auditors, and submitting honest and distinct accounts of proceedings—by getting a good Library as soon as possible—by not shirking responsibility, nor transferring their's needlessly to others—by not making laws of their own, or sanctioning such as may be made, of a nature to conflict with the existing School Law—and by not misinterpreting the law to suit their own purposes, when there may seem to be a vagueness in any of its provisions.

Parents will shew a judicious co-operation by studying order and system, and some self-sacrifice at home to allow of their children being regularly and punctually at School, and by giving them what help they can in preparing prescribed tasks—by maintaining kind but firm control, and making home attractive to their children, so as to offer them no inducement to choose improper associates and wander abroad at improper times—by visiting the School occasionally, upholding the Teacher's authority, and discountenancing *Tide-bearing*—and the People will further the co-operation of all parties by selecting Trustees for no other reason than real interest in the School and understood efficiency—shunning party spirit, whether national, political or religious, in making such appointments; by choosing a fit Auditor of School Accounts, and sanctioning wise expenditure for whatever purpose, when consulted.

Inability to fulfil one part of my prescribed duties so completely as I should desire, has induced me to lay these thoughts in their present form before those whose co-operation I have a certainty of, and others whose co-operation I earnestly desire to see enlisted in so good a cause. The System does not always get the best chance to shew what it might effect, were there less of jealousy and selfishness at work; but with united, energetic and wise action on the part of its friends, much good as it has assuredly brought about already, very much more, I believe, will it accomplish in the future. Let its friends take courage, and under God, success will crown their labors.

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