

School Journal, a magazine which we value very highly and which has been a great help to all interested in school work no matter from what standpoint, we find an article which we feel is detrimental to the general aims of the magazine and also to the Trustees as a body. It was given in the section headed "Trustees' Bulletin." Its subject was "School Ventilation."

We feel we should respectfully call your attention to this article. The writer feels that the article was no doubt inspired by a desire to help, and therefore regrets all the more that it is not more to the point.

At your convention this year the writer was requested to demonstrate the Clean Air System as used to heat and ventilate the model rural school. This he did, but feels that there will be uncertainty created in the minds of the Trustees by the article herein referred to.

The importance of this subject is so great, particularly at this time when so many lives are being necessarily sacrificed in this war that conservation of the lives of the school children is exceedingly important. It is appalling when we read Dr. Frazer's statement, that there were more lives lost during the last year through tuberculosis and preventable diseases in Manitoba than there were Manitobans killed at the front.

Yours truly,  
JOHN E. CURRIE.

From Mr. Iverach to Mr. Currie

Someone called my attention to the article in the Western School Journal to which you refer. I confess I do not know how such an article crept into that Journal, as everyone knows who has given any thought to heating and ventilating, particularly in rural schools, that such a crude system has passed out of existence in the rigorous Northern climate years ago.

You refer to the fact that you were requested to demonstrate the Clean Air Heating and Ventilating system at the Trustees' Convention last spring, and you fear that some uncertainty may be created in the minds of the Trustees as to which will be the right system. You need have no anxiety on that score. I think you can safely trust the School Trustees of Manitoba after seeing your demonstration of a fully equipped model rural one-roomed school and after hearing the testimony of their fellow trustees as to the superiority of the modern heating and ventilating systems over any of the so-called cheap and antiquated ideas of heating their schools, to be able to judge between them on the principle that truth is the best weapon with which to combat error. The article in question is only another opportunity for the clean air system to rise and show its superiority as no doubt the article will cause some discussion and cause others to look closely into the clean air system who would otherwise not have thought of doing so.

I fully agree with you that we have nothing in our school architecture that is of so much importance as heating and ventilating, particularly in this Northern climate, and more particularly in the neglected rural districts. Perhaps you will have noticed that the death rate is much higher in rural New York and the public health much more unsatisfactory than in New York city during the past 15 years. There is little doubt but an investigation would show that a good deal of this could be traced to unsatisfactory heating and ventilating of the rural schools, and what is true of rural New York is equally if not doubly true of rural Manitoba. Wishing you every success in your good work.

Yours very truly,  
WM. IVERACH.

"There is a life in every school which is felt rather than seen or heard. It is that life which constitutes the soul of a school."