

# HIGH SCHOOL FEE QUESTION DEBATED

## AT CONVENTION OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES

### Deputation Will Interview Ministers and Urge Importance of Founding Provincial University.

The convention of Provincial School Trustees was continued yesterday afternoon in the assembly room of the High school. The discussion was continued on Miss Cameron's resolution regarding a Provincial university, which appeared in yesterday's Times. It was as follows: "Resolved that the time for the founding of a Provincial university is now."

Supt. Argue, Vancouver, favored affiliation with McGill, as did also Mr. Ferguson, the latter expressing the conviction that a British Columbia university was impossible at the present time. He moved the following amendment which was seconded by Mr. Creighton: "Resolved, that in the opinion of this convention of school trustees of the Province of British Columbia that our legislature should immediately take into consideration the establishment of a university for British Columbia, which should be distinctly a Provincial institution, adapted to the special needs of the province, and that legislation proposed to afford the youths of the province the benefits of a university course affiliated with McGill university is timely and has the commendation of this convention."

Trustee Arthur opposed the amendment, and said that if the bill now before the legislature was a good one there was no need for rushing it. He would like to see a Provincial university endowed by the government.

Trustee Sturgeon followed along the same lines and favored an application to the government to endow a university. The amendment was then put and declared lost, the voting being 15 to 15. The original motion carried 15 to 6.

Miss Cameron moved, seconded by Dr. Arthur, that a deputation of three members be appointed by the chair to wait on the Provincial government and strongly urge on them the immediate importance of founding a Provincial university. The motion was carried and the chairman appointed Trustees Dr. Arthur, Huggert and Ferguson.

Dr. Tory, of McGill University, was invited to address the meeting. He explained that he was the educational agent for McGill, and as such was sent to this province with the view of establishing a college in the spirit of rivalry to any other institution—and all they asked was to be shown the staff and the efficiency of the school before granting affiliation. The university bill, he announced, had just passed its third reading—an announcement which was received with applause by those in favor of the measure. He denied that the matter had been taken up in favor of Vancouver as against Victoria, as when the basis of the bill was submitted, no particular place was named. If the government decided to establish a Provincial university McGill would not object. As to the outlook of a university for British Columbia, he stated that there were only 50 or 75 pupils available, and that to start a university would cost about \$500,000 and about \$25,000 a year afterwards.

After a vote of thanks to Dr. Tory Trustee Ferguson moved, seconded by Trustee Huggert, "that in the opinion of this convention the legislation proposing to establish a royal institution

of learning in this province is filling a much needed want for the youths of British Columbia seeking higher education, pending the establishment of a Provincial university."

The motion was carried. The question of the supply of text books was introduced by Trustee Carroll, who moved the following resolution: "That this convention is in favor of the Provincial government undertaking the furnishing of text books to the boards of trustees at the very lowest possible margin of profit." The motion was seconded by Trustee Planta and carried.

J. J. Dougan moved that the convention desired to place itself on record as being opposed to the too frequent change of text books prescribed by the educational department and the subsequent expense upon the parents of the children. The motion was seconded by Trustee Miss Cameron and carried.

An adjournment was then taken till 7:30 o'clock. Social Session. In the evening a social was arranged for those attending the convention, and the programme gone through with good effect. The chair was occupied by C. E. Redfern, in the absence of the Lieutenant-Governor and Bishop Perrin and the members of the board of school trustees occupied seats on the platform.

The chairman welcomed the Provincial Association of School Trustees, and hoped that the labors of their convention would be productive of the best results without delay.

Mr. Waddington rendered a vocal solo as did also Miss Standio and Mrs. Gregson, while J. Longfield gave a violin selection.

Miss Cameron read a paper on "The School and the Home," and a short address by the Bishop brought the proceedings to a close.

This morning's session of the convention Dr. Arthur, of Nelson, was voted to the chair. There was a large attendance of delegates and the business for consideration was proceeded with without delay.

"Times of Admission of Primary Pupils," was first introduced and after a somewhat interesting discussion Trustee Miss A. D. Cameron, seconded by J. J. Dougan, moved as follows:

"That in the opinion of this association in connection with the High school entrance examination this most desirable change should be made: Any pupil who, on the half-yearly entrance examination falls in not more than two subjects may upon the written declaration of the principal that in his opinion such pupil is competent to take up High school work and that a further term in the graded schools would not be to his advantage, be admitted to the High school and allowed to take up the work there."

Should, however, the principal of the High school, after such pupil has attended there one month, declare such pupil unable to continue his status to advantage there, any such recommended pupil may be by the principal of the High school rejected, and relegated again to the graded school whence he came.

This carried unanimously. "That the principal of the High school, after such pupil has attended there one month, declare such pupil unable to continue his status to advantage there, any such recommended pupil may be by the principal of the High school rejected, and relegated again to the graded school whence he came."

"Whereas, it is desirable that teachers holding second class certificates be encouraged to obtain a first-class; and whereas, many are desirous, as in Manitoba and elsewhere, of securing this advantage;

"Resolved, therefore, that the convention strongly urge the education department to allow holders of second-class certificates to write on three or more subjects annually till a first-class certificate is reached, provided, that said teacher remains in the profession and has taught successfully for some years."

The following motion, introduced by Trustee Miss Cameron, carried unanimously:

"That we ask to have the School act amended so as to give local trustees boards power to regulate the admission

of pupils in the primary grades at certain times of the year only."

The reading of the query, "Should clergymen be allowed to sit as school trustees?" lead to considerable debate. The general consensus of opinion seemed to be that the sentiment of sectarianism would likely be introduced to the detriment of the educational system.

Trustee Cameron spoke rather strongly, stating that the clergymen might be told that when they were able to agree among themselves the public might consider the advisability of appointing them to legislative positions. In her opinion many were exceedingly narrow in their views, so much so that they could not be entrusted with broad measures effecting the public.

Trustee Dr. Arthur submitted a statement showing the financial loss entailed by the different districts as a result of the introduction of the new School Act.

In a few remarks Dr. Arthur said that all the complaints with respect to the School Act was because the government heretofore had borne all the expense. Now that they intended asking the schools to contribute what appeared to him a fair share they were troubled. The change was sudden, it was true, but he didn't think it was unjust. He wasn't clear as to how much more the association should ask the government to contribute.

Supt. Argue, of Vancouver, thought that all school districts, whether of the first, second or third class standard, should pay their fair share of the expenditure.

J. J. Dougan, on behalf of Cumberland district, stated that the new School Act would weigh heavily there, Cumberland was in a unique position. The school drew from two sections, namely the towns of Cumberland and Union. As a result of the new legislation it would be necessary to raise no less than \$2,500 in addition to what was necessary at the present time. In securing this money it would only be possible to levy upon residents of Cumberland, while Union, which contributed one-third of the pupils attending the school, could not be asked to contribute one cent towards its maintenance. This was manifestly unfair, as the people were forced to contribute to the education of pupils belonging to an absolutely distinct community. Mr. Dougan also pointed out that if the taxes were raised to 6 mills the amount derived would reach a total of \$1,100, less than half of what was required. He suggested that the association might recommend the adoption of the per capita tax in that district. He believed that would prove much more satisfactory than what was proposed by the School Act in its present form. At the present time he had no resolution to offer on the matter, but would submit one embodying his proposals during the progress of the afternoon proceedings.

Trustee Ferguson wanted to know whether the department hadn't the question under consideration.

Replying, Mr. Dougan said he wasn't sure, but had been instructed by the Cumberland school authorities to bring it to the attention of the association.

Further discussion was left in abeyance.

Trustee J. B. Ferguson moved, seconded by Trustee Mowat, as follows: "In any municipality, city, town or village it may be optional for the trustees to require that the amounts levied for public or high school purposes which the council of such municipality, city, town or village has been required to levy in addition to the amount of the government grant, shall be paid by such council to the school trustees who have required the same to be levied not later than the 31st day of January in each year, and shall be disbursed by said board of school trustees for school purposes. The municipal council of every city, town or village shall, when required, to do so by the board of school trustees of such municipality, city, town or village, transfer the moneys required for school purposes, in addition to the government grant."

The debate upon this resolution was deferred until this afternoon, and adjournment being taken in the meantime for lunch, and there was enough to be seen on this continent to satisfy the most fastidious pleasure or health seeker. Nor was the west wanting in historic lore, if such were needed as attracted the people of Victoria and the United States were bound by common ties, and sought to achieve the same great object—liberty and freedom for all. They wished to let the people of the east know the wealth and beauty of the west, and by directing them towards the Pacific slope teach them that there was more to be seen here than in any other region on earth.

Flisher Harris was introduced as the "father of the movement," but did not see that he was entitled to such a distinction. There was nothing very original in the idea of seeing America first. Mr. Cuthbert, of the Victoria Tourist Association, had been working along similar lines. The speaker said that he had travelled very considerably and spoke from experience when he said that there was not on the face of the earth a more glorious country than this western America. He had stood on the banks of the old Thames and looked at the flowers in bloom along its banks. If such scenes were exceeded even in Paradise, he would become a more devout being and hurry thence. The speaker asked permission to quote a few figures. Figures, it had been said, never lie. Some lines of men figured, hence he did not like statistics. He proceeded with the promised figures, showing that in the year 1904, 315,000,000 were taken from New York to Europe by tourists. From these figures it was shown what an army of pleasure seekers it was and what might be accomplished with this money if kept at home. He next explained the conditions under which the America First movement was made and mentioned that it was made an international movement when it was shown that British Columbia was engaged in the same work through Mr. Cuthbert. The press, the pulpit and the schoolhouse were all working in this great cause, which was bound to succeed. It was intended to illustrate the school books with American views, and educate the children along those lines—teach them to know their own country. The speaker proceeded to argue that what would benefit the west would benefit the east also, so that the whole country should be interested in the movement. He read a large number of telegrams, letters, etc., from leading newspapers, magazines, railway men, governors of states and public men generally, all expressing sympathy with the movement and lending support. Scenery and climate were a valuable asset, and should be realized on; they were more valuable to British Columbia than her mines, her fisheries, or her forests, because they were unfailing assets.

L. W. Pratt, Tacoma, made a very eloquent, humorous and argumentative address. He spoke of being rocked in the cradle of liberty—not the cradle of liberty they spoke about in British Columbia, but the cradle of liberty—that liberty which was secured to the Anglo-Saxon race when the barons of old made King John sign the Magna Charta, five hundred years before the declaration of Independence was penned. He spoke in glowing terms of the beauties of this western country, and urged the inculcation of the principle "See America First," and "See Canada First," of course, included Canada.

Lindley Crease was invited to the platform and extended to the visitors of the evening a very cordial welcome on behalf of the citizens of Victoria and the board of trade. He said that while proud of their country and their nationality, British Columbians were at all times pleased to see their cousins from the other side amongst them. At this side of the border they were always willing to cross over to their cousins, see their wonderful country, their wonderful industries, and then return and rest content with what they themselves have at home. This country was a See America movement, but he would like to have a similar organization—a See Canada movement started. After all, Canadians did not concede themselves Americans, and "See Canada First" would be an invitation extended with more genuine heartiness than "See America First." "See American First, and then Canada," did not quite conform to his ideas. Why not "See Canada First?" He moved a hearty vote of thanks to the visitors of the evening, and assured them that they would always be warmly welcome to Victoria, and not only that, but as many of their friends as they wished to bring with them.

Anton Henderson seconded the motion, which carried with applause.

The Mayor apologized for the absence of Prentiss McEbride and T. W. Paterson, M. P. P. His Worship was sorry that so many citizens had missed the treat afforded that evening by the eloquence of visitors, and hoped that the good work inaugurated would meet with the success it deserved.

Herbert Cuthbert briefly addressed the meeting, pointing out that these gentlemen from the United States had come over here of their great heartiness to help on the good work. The speakers of the evening would do much to advertise British Columbia as well as their own country.

Hon. E. Smith also addressed the meeting, mentioning that he had been all through the United States, but never saw anything to equal the scenery of the west.

The last session of the season was held at St. Barnabas' church school room Tuesday evening and like those that preceded it was a very enjoyable affair. The programme though last was not the least.

The Imperial Chinese commission, appointed some time ago to study Occidental forms of government, is expected to arrive at Seattle on Monday next, according to information received by E. R. Stephen, the local agent of the Great Northern railway. The party consists of 39 of China's prominent men, who intend visiting Germany, Austria, France, England and America, and will be met at Port Townsend by committee representing the Chinese societies and prominent merchants of the Pacific Coast. They will spend several days on the coast, then journey east over the Great Northern.

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Leading stores everywhere have Belding's Silks. Every shade and color for all kinds of sewing.

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are some of the little things that save dressmakers and tailors a world of trouble. Twisted evenly—spooled carefully—free from knots, kinks and weak spots.

### PRINCE ARTHUR'S WELCOME TO TOKIO

RECEIVED BY EMPEROR AT RAILWAY STATION

Thousands of Persons Cheered the Royal Visitor as He Drove to the Palace.

Tokio, Feb. 20.—The arrival of Prince Arthur of Connaught, coming to present the Order of the Garter to the Japanese Emperor, is the occasion of absolutely unprecedented evidences of rejoicing.

Contrary to all custom, the Emperor himself received Prince Arthur at the Shibusai station. The platform was crowded with court dignitaries and officers in full uniform. The decorations there consisted of Union Jacks and Rising Suns. The city was decorated with flags, lanterns, flowers and triumphal arches.

After the arrival of the imperial train yesterday Prince Arthur and the Emperor exchanged cordial greetings. Prince Arthur was driven in a court carriage to Kasumigazaki palace, accompanied by Crown Prince Arisugawa and escorted by the Imperial Lancers, military bands playing the British national anthem. The arrival of the train was the signal for the firing of a royal salute. Hibya park and the route from the Shibusai station to the Kasumigazaki palace were lined with thousands of cheering people, who gave the Prince an enthusiastic welcome.

The day was observed as a general holiday, and the visit of the British Prince evidently was regarded as one of the most important events in the history of Japan.

Prince Arthur dined with Crown Prince Arisugawa last night.

#### SYSTEMATIC ROBBERY.

Employee of Everett Smelter Company Confesses That He Stole Gold and Silver Bullion.

Seattle, Feb. 21.—William Meisel, an employee of the Everett Smelting Company, is in King county jail and will be taken to Everett to-day where charges will be preferred against him of having for the past several months systematically robbed the smelting company of gold and silver bullion to the value of at least \$10,000.

Meisel was arrested last night by Detectives Adams and Lane and Deputy Sheriff Belding. When arrested he had in his possession a cheque for \$38.94, which had been received from a firm of manufacturing Jewellers, to whom he had disposed of some of the property previously.

In his hip pocket was found a brick of gold and silver bullion weighing six pounds, which was pronounced by an assayer to be valued at over \$10 an ounce.

When taken to jail Meisel confessed to having robbed the company since early last spring and he has at this time fifteen bricks of the same size as the one found in his possession, buried under the floor of his house at Everett.

Information of the capture was wired to the sheriff of Snohomish county and the house will be searched. Some time ago the company noticed there was a leakage, but was unable to discover where the trouble lay. Detectives and a deputy sheriff have been watching the place ever since the leakage was noticed.

#### TARIFF QUESTION.

Resolution Will Be Introduced by New Government.

London, Feb. 21.—The House of Commons devoted the entire day and night sessions to a desultory debate on the address in reply to the speech from the throne.

Among the motions of which notice was given, the following will be moved from the government benches: "The House of Commons, recognizing the general decision of the people of the United Kingdom, in demonstrating unqualified fidelity to the principles of free trade, deems it right to record its determination to resist any proposals, whether for the taxation of foreign corn or by the erection of a general tariff on foreign goods which will create a system of protection." This resolution will be moved after the adoption of the address. It is understood that the Duke of Devonshire will move a similar resolution in the House of Lords.

\$1.00 PER CAN

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## THE COMMISSIONER INTERIOR

ON FISHERIES OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

The Limitation of Canadian Waters—More Patrol Necessary

As stated in a dispatch on February 14th an intimation of the Fisheries Commission was prepared and was considered of the cabinet held on the 15th. The full text is as follows:

(1) The commission opinion that, in view placed before it, a statement of the difference Dominion and Provincial fisheries is essential as soon as possible. Much of the evidence before the commission deprecates the administration and the fisheries are hampered by dual authority.

(2) The commission pressed with the impossibility of necessity of some solution by the Dominion respecting Hecate Straits waters are Canadian fisheries, extensively carried on Entrance to Queen Inlet, are illegal as notification of the position is essential as soon as possible. The commission in the course of the investigation, effective measures, security of the fisheries should be sanctioned so that parties may not make preparations and treaties with a view to territories in the north-west.

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# A FOOD AND A TONIC

What the leading medical journal of the world has to say about FERROL.

After making a thorough test of FERROL in its own laboratory the London (England) Lancet published an article from which the following extract is taken:

From London Lancet, September 6th, 1902:

FERROL—This is a successful combination of the well-known valuable remedies Cod Liver Oil, Iron and Phosphorus. The formula is no secret, and our analysis showed the presence and amount of constituents as described. The preparation is a good one, and of distinct therapeutic value. The association of an easily assimilable oil in a fine state of division, with a phosphatic salt of iron, which does not disturb the digestive functions, and which is easily tolerated, determines its success as a good and tonic in wasting diseases.

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