

which would make itself felt in the proper quarter. *The salaries of our teachers ought to be raised.* We put the statement in italics advisedly. Indeed, it were well if the school sections of our province would rise up and say to the government: The salaries of our teachers *must* be raised. Yet many of the constituencies are slow to make progress in school affairs, unless the pressure of the law can force the desire for improvements into maturity. The inspectors, one and all, maintain that the individual grants are too small to influence the self-interest of the municipalities. A recommendation on the part of the inspector may be an excellent recommendation, but of what avail is it, if he or the department has no means, or the merest poverty of means, to induce the community to act upon it? And thus it is that any recommendation to increase the teachers' salaries remains as good as no recommendation, and ends, as it has ended so far, in mere talk. In advocating an increased subsidy, we all turn our eyes to the Council of Public Instruction, and through that body to the Premier of the Province and his government. The Protestant Committee has taken the initiative by retaining a sub-committee on Elementary Education. In these days, when Roman Catholic and Protestant Inspectors can meet in conference and discuss in the most amicable spirit the greater problems of our educational system, a meeting of the whole Council of Public Instruction might easily bring its concerted influence to bear upon the government of the day in the direction of an increased subsidy. Mr. Mercier is the acknowledged friend of education in our province; and through him a successful attempt to make the school law a greater influence for good may be looked upon as all but assured, if he be approached in the proper spirit. The inspectors have passed a resolution urging such an increase; while they have at the same time suggested the means of partially training those elementary teachers who have taken their course outside the normal schools by the holding of Teachers' Institutes at stated periods of the year. Emphasizing, as it has, these two principles of a sound educational system,—the increasing of the grants to such an extent as to assure the influence of the Department and the training of the teachers, we cannot but look upon the organization of the Inspector's Conference as a step in the right direction. As a body of men possessed of a matured experience in school affairs, its deliberations must have an effect for good. We shall take opportunity again to discuss the various resolutions passed at the meetings. Meantime we may congratulate the Superintendent on the success of the conference he has inaugurated and