

MANAGEMENT.

That it is the duty of managers to meet the Government subsidy with *some* local aid, and to keep proper accounts of school income and expenditure.

That for every principal teacher a residence, or its equivalent, should be provided and maintained at the cost of the locality.

That local management is absolutely for the well-being of the school.

ATTENDANCE OF CHILDREN.

That it would be inexpedient to pass any law compelling attendance at school in rural districts.

That in towns it is desirable that provision be made for the education at the expense of the parents, if possible, or if not, at the expense of the community, of all children who are of school age and are not actually at work.

That all children should either pay themselves or be paid for out of a public rate.

MAINTENANCE OF SCHOOLS—I. LOCAL CONTRIBUTIONS.

That the grant made by the Commissioners of National Education should bear a fixed proportion to the amount locally contributed, and that the Commissioners should maintain this rule in all places except those where they should be satisfied that, after all due local exertion has been made, its application would close a necessary school.

That in default of voluntary local payments or school fees, the requisite local contribution should be raised by rate.

That if the principle of an educational rate be adopted, such rate should be raised like the poor rate, which is paid half by the occupier.

That where "local aid" falls below one-third of the amount of the Board's grant the Board's payments should be proportionately diminished, unless after report of head and district inspectors, the Board judge an exception necessary.

That the local rate should not exceed 3d in the pound.

That the amount raised by rate and local subscriptions, together with school fees, should reach one-fourth of the total cost of the school.

That every school aided by the State should be managed by a committee regularly appointed, and that every school fund should have a treasurer, who we think should, as a general rule, be a layman.

That rent and repair of school-houses and teachers' residences should be a first charge upon the education rate.

II.—GOVERNMENT CONTRIBUTION.

That to obtain aid from the National Board, the children must be examined by the inspector in subjects of secular instruction; and it must be ascertained that the children presented are really those who have been taught in the school: hence—

I.—All children shall be presented to the inspector for examination in Reading, Writing, and Arithmetic; and, on his report, the National Board will pay to the school a fixed sum per head for every pass in each of these subjects, in respect of each child who has made the fixed number of attendances in the year preceding the inspector's visit.

SCHOOL BOOKS.

That in all schools the use of any suitable school books should be allowed without any privilege or preference for the books of the Commissioners of National Education.

That the examination of schools and school teachers should be so conducted as to leave free the use of any suitable books to managers or teachers.

That the National Board, and its officers, should refrain from preparing or publishing any school books in future,

That the books proposed to be used by managers of schools be

notified to the Board previously to their use in schools, and that none be used to which the Board objects.

That a grant of one shilling per annum for each scholar in average attendance be made to the managers in all schools of which the inspector reports that they have been properly supplied with school-books and requisites during the year.

RELIGIOUS TEACHING.

That in places where there is only one school, religious instruction shall be confined to fixed hours.

(a.) No child registered as a Protestant shall be present when religious instruction is given by a Catholic.

No child registered as a Catholic shall be present when religious instruction is given by a person who is not a Catholic.

(b.) No child to be allowed to join in, or to be present at, any religious observances to which the child's parents or guardians may object.

(c.) The school-books shall be such as have been allowed by the National Commissioners of Education for use in a mixed school.

(d.) No religious emblems should be exhibited during school hours.

That the inspector shall not examine into religious teaching or instruction in any school, but he shall ascertain whether the rules are duly observed.

That when there have been in operation in any school district, or within any city or town, for three years, two or more schools, of which one is under Protestant, and one under Catholic management, having an average attendance of not less than twenty-five children, the National Board may, upon application from the patron or manager, adopt any such school, and award aid without requiring any regulation as to religion other than the following:—

I. Such schools, recognized as separate schools for a particular denomination, shall be subject to the prohibitions *a* and *b* above.

II. The recognition shall be terminable upon a twelve months' notice.

That applications from schools to be placed on the list of denominational schools, aided by the National Board, shall be considered at a meeting of the Board, at which the major part of the Commissioners shall be present: and when the applications are approved, they shall be scheduled and laid before both houses of Parliament, as it is proposed should be done in the case of change of rules.

That schools may, if the managers petition for it, be admitted to the benefit of inspection, without receiving any subsidy.

That in all cases (as above) the minority being free to retire, and the teachers being bound to put them out when religious instruction is given to the majority, the managers shall be bound to provide proper shelter for the children who are of a different religious denomination from the teacher.

SALARIES OF TEACHERS.

That the pay of National school teachers is insufficient to secure the best candidates and to retain the best teachers in the profession, and that it should be raised.

That the classification salaries of existing teachers should not be made subject to deduction as long as they retain their classification.

That the following scale of class salaries should be adopted:—I. Males, £38; females, £30. II. Males, £30; females, £24. III. Males, £24; females, £20.

That schools taught by unclassified teachers should have inspection and payment by results provided that they conform to the rules of the Board.

That the principles of payment by results and of rise in classification by good service, having been adopted, the necessity of supplementing ordinary salary by good service salary no longer exists.