

employment of children under the age of compulsory school attendance.

"That inasmuch as education cannot fulfil its proper function without the playgrounds and equipment suitable for the development of organized play, this Conference calls the attention of our Canadian school authorities to the fact that many of our school grounds are inadequate to this purpose.

"That this Conference having regard to the fact that Canada is largely an agricultural country, expresses its conviction that it is in the best interests of the whole country that a high type of rural schools be developed; and that as a means to this end continuation work in rural schools be encouraged and every inducement be offered to rural pupils to attend these schools until such time as attendance to the age of 16 years be made compulsory."

The motion was seconded by Mr. John Sully.

His Lordship Bishop Richardson, referring to the resolution respecting state aid to parents, pointed out the difficulty of determining what was "economic necessity," what the aid should be, etc. The issues involved in these resolutions were so big that it would be extremely rash to take action without very mature consideration of the questions in all their bearings. He suggested that Dr. Scott should broaden the resolution so as to provide for the committee to study the whole problem, taking cognizance of what is being done in England and other countries. The committee might thus be enabled to present some comprehensive scheme which would save another year's delay on the part of the Council.

The suggested amendment was accepted by Dr. Scott.

Mr. Carpenter stated that reference had been made to the needs of the rural districts, but the needs of some of the urban communities were also of fundamental importance. In many cases tremendous injury was being done to the school children by obliging them to take courses absolutely unfitted to their particular needs. He expressed the hope that the whole curriculum in its character-making and citizenship aspects would eventually be studied with reference to its suitability to the varying needs of pupils according to temperament.

Mr. Peacock agreed with the views expressed by Mr. Carpenter. It did seem entirely wrong to enforce compulsory training, even up to the age of 16, unless the curriculum was modified.

The motion of Dr. Scott, as amended, was adopted.

On the resolution: "Whereas the effect of the moving picture on school children is incalculably powerful for good or evil, and whereas much of what is now offered as entertainment is based upon suggestions that tend to familiarize the minds of children with situations that are sensational and frequently immoral and vulgar;

"Therefore be it resolved that this Conference direct attention to the vital necessity of developing an active public opinion, demonstrated by attendance at theatres, for the support of good pictures—which can only be hoped for when it becomes good business to exhibit such pictures; and also for the strengthening of the hands of the various boards of censorship in their efforts to raise the standard of the moving picture industry; and that every effort be made to secure films depicting Canadian and British life in sentiment."

Bishop Richardson asked how the hands of the moving picture censors needed to be strengthened.

Mrs. McWilliams related an experience with a certain film which was condemned by the Board of Censors at Winnipeg, and also by the appeal board. The film people were determined that it should be shown. They therefore invited clergymen, officers of women's organizations, social workers, etc., to attend a private exhibition of the film. On the promise that such would not be published, they obtained letters and even photographs of certain persons who attended the private exhibition, and so the morale of the censor board was entirely overthrown. The efforts of the censors, said Mrs. McWilliams, were constantly thwarted because money had an enormous influence in getting pictures passed which the censor, if supported by a healthy public opinion, would keep out. People instead of inveighing against the censors should take some trouble to become acquainted with their work, and more trouble to support them.

Bishop Richardson asked if the censors gradually came to feel there was such a body of public opinion that they could not stand up against it.

Mrs. McWilliams said it was not a question of what the censors wanted, but of what the average of the general public desired to see.

Principal Vance said that after all, the censor could do no more than express the average intelligence and morality and the general sentiments of the public. The basis of a proper censorship was a healthy sentiment on the part of the average person in the