

Resolved, that this conference is of the opinion that county gaols and lock-ups should be conducted strictly on the cellular system, so as to secure absolute separation of prisoners; and that said gaols and lock-ups should be maintained as places of detention only for persons awaiting trial. That pending the construction of sufficient prison and reformatory accommodation for the province, in the opinion of this conference the cells of gaols constructed on the separate or cellular plan might be utilized for the incarceration of persons under short sentences, and for first offences as well as for persons awaiting trial."

The seconder of the resolution was Rev. Thos. Geoghegan, who said that the first great step in the reform was to transfer the authority over county jails, now vested in county councils, to the Government. This once done, he trusted that a very short time would elapse before the separate cellular system would be established.

Mr. J. Cameron, Gaoler, Woodstock, stated that the Gaolers' Association of Ontario, of which he was President, had petitioned the Ontario Government to assume entire control of county gaols. The gaolers believed that prison reform must commence with the gaols, and this was impossible so long as the present dual control continued. He invited the Conference to co-operate with the Gaolers' Association in urging the Government to assume complete control of the gaols and lockups.

Hon. A. M. Ross was then asked to give his views. He said that public opinion was not yet educated to such a degree as to warrant the Government in taking the administration of jails from the county councils. They would be blamed, as they had been blamed before, as desiring to centralize all authority in their own hands. The matter of appointing an officer to interview the councils had, he said, been mooted, but he would advise if any steps were taken in that direction that a committee of two or three be appointed instead, as they would have more weight.

The resolution was carried unanimously.

A COMMISSION ASKED FOR.

The Bishop of Niagara then moved the following resolution:—

That this Conference joins the Prisoners' Aid Association in asking

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