

of study, as well as to give them some notion of the school routine and discipline that produce the best results. The resolution that was carried in this connection is likely to meet with general satisfaction. It is as follows:—

“That in the opinion of the inspectors assembled it is desirable that the inspectors be required to make one visit, instead of the two now made, and that the first visit be replaced by conferences held amongst the teachers of the municipalities in their several inspectorates.”

—The second question that came up for discussion, referred to the school statistics, furnished by the schools, and it seemed to be the general opinion that all schools in the province, private and public, should be called upon to furnish statistics to the Department of Public Instruction, in order that the true proportion of those attending school in our population should be stated when our school statistics are placed before the public. On account of the imperfect reports, Quebec has often suffered at the hands of the outside statistician when it is placed in comparison with the other provinces of the Dominion. In this connection Mr. Parmelee presented Quebec's case in the clearest of terms. He said he often felt grieved at the exhibition made by the figures given in the Dominion Year Book regarding education. According to statistics twenty-five per cent. of the gross population of the Dominion was receiving education, whilst in Quebec only nineteen or twenty per cent. were attending school. This meant that either children were not attending school or were leaving too early. Their statistics were somewhat defective. In the cities of Montreal and Quebec, at all events on the Protestant side, there were a large number of private schools. As soon as any attempt was made to enforce any course of study people sent their children, as they had a perfect right to do, to one of these schools. Thus there was on the Protestant side a large number of children receiving education, but the schools refused to give statistics to the inspectors. There were some notable exceptions. Accurate returns would make a great difference. If a similar state of things exists on the Roman Catholic side—and it was said to be worse—the province is greatly maligned. Any institution receiving the Government grant should make all reasonable returns to the Government. It was difficult sometimes to secure them, but the law should cover these cases.

—It could hardly be expected that the perennial discussions about teachers' salaries should not be revived at an important meeting of this kind. The question arose from the programme