

Q.—The board did not give you any assistance? A.—None.

Q.—And the same with the slips in Arithmetic? A.—Yes, the same.

By Mr. Le Sueur, Commissioner:

Q.—When you were writing, was it upon a slate? A.—No, upon paper; I think we always use paper.

Q.—And you put a piece of paper aside if you do not work it very well? A.—Yes, I think so. There was no rule in the case.

Q.—You had a slip of paper with the correct answer. You were working upon the question, and found your result was not the same as that upon the paper. Could you put the piece of paper aside and commence a new operation until the correct answer was brought out? A.—Yes.

By Mr. McDowall, Complainant:

Q.—Did you find any of your answers not to correspond to those upon the paper? A.—I do not remember.

Q.—You do not remember making any changes? A.—I do not.

MARY PILSON.

Signed in presence of

P. LE SUEUR,
Commissioner.

This closed Mr. McDowall's list of witnesses upon the last group of charges, and after some discussion

The Rev. H. J. Borthwick was called in his own defence. Having stated that he had a conscientious objection to "kissing the book," he made an affirmation with uplifted hand, and proceeded to make the following statement:—The third charge is that in one case at least I wrote on the black-board the answers to questions, thereby assisting candidates to the solution of the same. Until this present inquiry was in progress, I had no recollection whatever of the fact recited in that charge, but of course I cannot for one moment suppose that the ladies and gentlemen who have given testimony here have testified falsely. I have no recollection whatever of having written these answers, but the witnesses have said the writing was there, and I demur most emphatically to the statement that it was done to aid the candidates in the solution of their problems. It was meant merely to give them an idea whether they were approaching to correctness or not. These ladies and gentlemen have testified that the answers were there. I am sure that neither of the other gentlemen put them there, and therefore I shall have to take the onus of having written them myself, but of having written them to give the candidates an idea of whether they were nearly right or not—certainly not assisting them to that conclusion. I would also say, in regard to this third charge, these answers to the Physiology questions, if put up by me, were put up just at the close, as I shall acknowledge in the fourth case, with the view of letting them know whether they were right, or whether they were likely to pass. As to the fourth head, I admit, as I have already said, that I did hand round papers such as those mentioned at the close of the examination. Some, I believe, had ere then handed in their papers, and some had not, but none of them made any change in their papers in consequence. As to having written "You have passed in English Grammar," I have no doubt I did.

Dr. Hodgins—What was your object in stating that?

Mr. Borthwick—These teachers were all of them in our own staff, and my object was to send them home comfortable. I had no desire to injure any one or help any one. No one could have derived any unfair advantage in any form.

By Mr. Le Sueur—I suppose it was done out of a feeling of kindness to them?

Mr. Borthwick—Exactly so.

Cross-examined by Dr. Hodgins, Chairman:

Q.—You did not give these answers to some and not to all? A.—I did not.

Q.—So that favouritism could not arise out of the matter? A.—By no possibility. "Hodgins' School Law Lectures," page 177, gives information with regard to examiners. (Reads the declaration.) In your presence, gentlemen, I distinctly state, upon oath as I am, that no advantage was given to any one that was not given to the whole.

Q.—And you regarded the act of giving these answers as you did quite within the scope of that solemn declaration? A.—Yes, I did. Now, as to charge No. 5, I remember quite well the circumstance. I had no recollection of it at first, but now I do remember standing upon the edge of our platform, when the ladies and gentlemen were passing out, and some one of the ladies jokingly asking—"Well, what is going to be on the next paper, I wonder?" That was done over and over again. I remember that some one made this remark, but I cannot say who. I answered—"Physiology." "I wonder what it will be about," was the next remark from the lady. I answered in a general way—a mere coincidence—something about the teeth—whether the correct words have been

given in evidence I cannot say—and something about the bones, I dare say, but I am not sure.

Q.—Were you aware of what the subject of the examination paper was? A.—Decidedly and emphatically, no.

Q.—The papers were still sealed up? Yes.

Q.—The Regulations require these seals to be broken in presence of another examiner. Can you mention the name of that examiner? A.—I most emphatically state, with regard to these papers on Physiology, that while standing on the platform, as I have shown you, and when the conversation alluded to took place, I had no more idea of what was in them than, as the saying is, the man in the moon, for they had not been opened. As to the sixth charge, that the time was extended, &c., &c., I could not say. There may have been a few minutes given occasionally—I cannot say how often. I consider there is a license given on special occasions, or at any rate a latitude, to presiding Inspectors and Examiners, so far as their judgment lies. I am decidedly certain the extension was not for an hour. It was done with my sanction I have no doubt, but whether at my instance I do not know. I think it quite likely, however.

By Mr. Le Sueur, Commissioner:

Q.—You are Chairman of the Board? A.—I am Chairman of the Board by virtue of my office as Inspector.

By Dr. Hodgins, Chairman:

Q.—Do you know whether there is a Regulation as to the time of closing examinations? A.—I know there is a Regulation that they shall be opened at one hour and closed at another.

Q.—And another in regard to persons coming late? A.—I do not know that if persons come in late, they are not allowed to make up lost time.

Q.—In other words, that the examination shall close specifically at the hour named? A.—I think so.

Q.—In this case the Examiners did not do so, under circumstances which appeared to them to justify it? A.—I admit that, but I consider, as presiding examiner, that there was a latitude allowed us.

Q.—Do you not know that it is a question upon which we have been very careful not to allow Boards any latitude at all? A.—Well, I do not think I had any motive in doing it.

Q.—The fact is admitted that the time was extended? A.—That is so, but I do not admit that I was solely responsible for it.

By Mr. McDowall, Complainant, through the Chair:

Q.—In the examination of July, 1874, did you not actually give an advantage to some teachers that you did not give to others? Did you not pass slips to some with the answers in Arithmetic written on them, while to others the slips merely contained the information that they had passed in English Grammar? A.—I answer that I did not pass these papers to some and not to others.

Q.—Are you prepared to say that you gave these answers to Mr. Martin; and is it not the fact that you only gave him a slip of paper with the information—"you have passed in English Grammar?" A.—I do not acknowledge that these answers were any advantage, but I am not prepared to say whether I left out one of the candidates in distributing them or not. My impression and belief is that they were given to all, including Mr. Martin.

By Mr. Le Sueur, Commissioner:

Q.—Have you any recollection of giving it? A.—I have no recollection, but I have no doubt he got it. My intention was that all should see them, without any distinction.

H. J. BORTHWICK,
I. P. S.

Signed in presence of

J. GEO. HODGINS,

Chairman.

P. LE SUEUR,

Commissioner.

SECOND DAY.

Dr. Hodgins, Chairman of the Commission, announced that the investigation of charges 1 and 2 would now be proceeded with.

Abraham Pratt, sworn and examined by Mr. McDowall, Complainant:

Q.—Are you a member of the Board of Examiners for the examination of Public School teachers for Ottawa? A.—I am.

Q.—When were you first appointed on that Board? A.—I think in 1871, when the first Board was appointed.

Q.—And you have been a member of the Board ever since? A.—No; one year I was not.

Q.—What year was that? A.—1873 or 1874, I would not be sure which.

Q.—When were you re-appointed? A.—At the beginning of 1874, I think; but I did not act that year.