

machinery would enable them to get into touch with all the interests which ought to be represented.

Prof. Derick suggested that the ideas advocated by Dr. Soloan might be carried out by the adoption of Clause 1 of the committee's report.

Mr. Peacock took issue with the statement that the universities were closely in touch with the real educational problems of the country or the needs of the common people. He maintained they were not in a position to offer the best and most constructive suggestions regarding the elementary schools, particularly those of the rural districts. As to Dr. Parmelee's statement that the discussion was going too far afield, Mr. Peacock contended that character education was broad in scope and permeated every subject.

The Chairman declared that as a business man he believed the universities could carry out the work infinitely better than any group of individuals could do it.

Dr. Snell pointed out that even if the universities were not conversant with elementary or rural school problems, the recommendation provided that they should consult and co-operate with persons who were competent to deal with those questions.

The report of the committee, as amended, was concurred in, and the incoming executive was instructed to submit the matter to the authorities of the universities concerned.

Prof. Cudmore, of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, addressed the meeting. He quoted figures showing the present financial position of Canada and said that the only way for the Dominion to recover from her enormous losses in the war was to increase the efficiency of the people. The wealth of the country increased with the increase in general knowledge; therefore any movement for the improvement of education was a movement for the betterment of Canada. He told of the data collected by the Bureau of Statistics respecting school attendance, etc., and of plans for co-operation between the Bureau and the Dominion and Provincial employment services for the purpose of providing suitable employment for pupils leaving school.

On motion of Dr. Soloan; seconded by Prof. Derick, the meeting adjourned.

Fourth Sitting, Wednesday Afternoon, February 18

The meeting opened at 2.20 p.m.

Report of Committee on Status of Teaching Profession

Mr. John T. Joy presented the following report of the committee appointed to consider the inauguration of propaganda to emphasize the national importance of the teaching profession:

"Believing that there is among a large proportion of the public a failure to understand and appreciate the work of the teacher, your Committee recommends:

"That a campaign of education be undertaken for the purpose of impressing upon the people of Canada the profound importance of the teaching profession as an agency for developing national character, and that for this purpose the Council endeavor to secure the co-operation of the press and the various community and welfare organizations."

It was moved by Mr. Joy, seconded by Dr. McIntyre, that the report of the committee be adopted.

Bishop Richardson expressed the opinion that very little could be accomplished until the question was dealt with in its financial aspect. Large numbers of teachers were leaving the profession because of the inadequate salaries.

Principal Vance explained that the committee recognized that the lack of appreciation by the public of the work which the teacher is doing in the community was largely due to ignorance or thoughtlessness, and the remedy was a propaganda or policy of systematic education. The desired co-operation might be given by the publication of special articles in the press and by means of lecture campaigns. However, the committee thought it best to leave the details to be worked out by the executive committee.

Dr. MacMurphy urged that the proposal contained in the report be made a first charge upon the executive.

Mr. Iverach, while agreeing with the recommendation, considered it did not go far enough. The cause which had reduced the teaching profession to bankruptcy, he said, was the system of school administration, particularly in the rural districts. The unit of administration must be enlarged and the schools improved; otherwise propaganda would be futile.

Prof. Osborne suggested that the committee's report should contain a direct instruction to the executive to conduct, as an integral and important part of the work of the organization, such propaganda as might be decided upon from time to time.