

same time Mr. Baldwin asserts that it meets the legitimate requirements of State, and that therefore there is no reason why it should be denied recognition.

MEMORANDUM RE VOLUNTARY PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

The aim of this movement is, shortly, as follows :—

1. To encourage parents to take a personal interest in the education of their own children, and enable them by contributing a voluntary fee to supplement the amount expended through the Public School Board, so that they may obtain a more liberal education. The elementary education covered by the Public School curriculum can thus be supplemented by a grounding in classics, by adding drawing, music, commercial, religious or other special instruction desired by parents.

2. To encourage teachers who have qualified under the Public School system and have also ability to impart such special instruction as is above enumerated, to do so and earn some recompense therefore as supplemental to the salary to which they would be entitled for imparting the ordinary Public School instruction.

3. To economize in the number of Public School buildings. It can reasonably be expected that parents might group themselves according to their common desire for religious instruction, for instance, and in cities nearly all places of worship have attached to them school-houses, which might be made available for the purpose, but these school-

houses are now used only on Sundays and are closed up through the week. Ten of such buildings accommodating one hundred pupils each, and representing a total of one thousand, would mean a saving to the Public School Board of about \$50,000 in the capital expenditure, based on what has been done in the Public Schools in Toronto.

It will be seen that no public money is used in the erection of the buildings in which, for instance, religious instruction may be imparted in which the public is not interested, and the desire for religious or other special instruction might induce parents or others to establish these schools and provide suitable buildings. Any grant from the Public School funds would be made only on account of the educational work done on Public School lines. The fact that such schools would be required to employ only qualified Government teachers, use Public School Text Books, and submit to inspection, would be a guarantee of the efficiency of the secular work of the Public Schools.

The experiment made with the Avenue Road Voluntary Public School began in January, 1900, with twelve pupils. We have now an attendance of over thirty, and from an educational standpoint I think I may say that the experiment has proved of value. Our chief difficulty has been in regard to the building, as it was erected in the first instance without any regard to its use as a day school.

The school is managed by a Board of three trustees elected by the parents, and an annual meeting is held in January, when the report of the year's work is presented. In the election of trustees each parent is allowed a vote for each child of his in attendance.

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OUR HERO DEAD.

ON lonely veldt, and where the distant kopje  
Uprears its frowning head,  
Comrades of march and bivouac and battle,  
They lie, our hero dead.

But not forgotten, for, in shining letters,  
Writ large, their names shall stand  
Forever on the pages of the story  
Of their dear Native Land.

And so we leave them, while the stars above them  
Their faithful vigils keep,  
In quiet slumber, till the great Reveillé  
Shall wake them from their sleep.

*J. H. Long.*