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Winnipeg, May 19th, 1912.

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GEO. E. ROGERS.

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## THE SCHOOLS OF LAMBTON

Report of N. McDougall, Inspector of Public Schools.

Inspector's Office,

Petrolia, June 5, 1912.

To the Warden and County Councillors of the County of Lambton.

Gentlemen:—I have the honor to submit for your consideration my Fifth Annual Report, since I became Public School Inspector for East Lambton.

This report is for the year ending December 31st, 1911, and is given under the following heads:

Accommodation, equipment, miscellaneous, teachers, pupils, financial and general.

1. Accommodations—There are 87 rural schools in East Lambton, three of which have two classrooms. In connection with each of these 87 rural schools there are thirteen items of accommodation which are to be graded by the Inspector at each visit. The grading ranges from I, the highest, to IV, the lowest. The following is my grading of some of the more important items:

Water closets—Grade I, 6 schools; Grade II, 47 schools; Grade III, 27 schools; Grade IV, 7 schools.

Water Supply—Grade I, 32 schools; Grade II, 19 schools. No water supply, 26 schools.

School Grounds—Grade I, 19 schools; Grade II, 47 schools; Grade III, 19 schools; Grade IV, 2 schools.

School Buildings—Grade I, 7 schools; Grade II, 53 schools; Grade III, 22 schools; Grade IV, 5 schools.

Class Rooms—Grade I, 24 schools; Grade II, 38 schools; Grade III, 21 schools; Grade IV, 4 schools.

Desks—Grade I, 3 schools; Grade II, 26 schools; Grade III, 42 schools; Grade IV, 6 schools.

Lighting—Grade I, 2 schools; Grade II, 81 schools; Grade III, 4 schools; Grade IV, no schools.

Heating and Ventilation—Grade I, 25 schools; Grade II, 4 schools. No approved heating and ventilating system, 58 schools.

When the grading of the accommodations is summed up in this way, it becomes quite evident where improvement is most urgently needed. Grades I, or II, indicate that conditions conform to the requirements of the regulations or are reasonably satisfactory; while grades III, and IV, indicate that conditions are more or less unsatisfactory and require improvement. In fact, Grade IV, suggests that improvement is very necessary. Inasmuch as 58 schools have not yet provided an improved heating and ventilating system, while 36 schools have no adequate water supply on the premises, and about 40 have seats entirely unsuited to the comfort and convenience of the pupils, we can readily see along what lines improvement is most required. In the interests of economy, as well as the health and comfort of pupils and teachers, I hope to see every school provided, at an early date, with an approved heating and ventilating system.

Four new schools were built during the year, viz., No. 13, Enniskillen; No. 7 and 11, Brooke and Euphemia; No. 13 Brooke and No. 8 Euphemia. There are still a few sections in the inspectorate, where a new school is badly needed, but I am well pleased with the gratifying progress that has been made in the improvement of school buildings. I am pleased also to notice a greater interest manifested in the care of school grounds. "Show me your school premises," said a shrewd farmer. "They will tell me more about your section than I can learn in any other way." True, the passer-by reads the history of the community in the appearance of the school and its surroundings. In S. S. No. 1 Euphemia about a dozen members of the Women's Institute worked all Arbor Day assisting the teacher and pupils to beautify the school grounds. I would commend this to militant suffragettes as better employment than window smashing. When the school garden idea, which is growing in Ontario, becomes generally adopted, many unattractive school grounds will be transformed into Edens of beauty, while the interest on home surroundings will be no less apparent. I may say that three or four schools in my division have started school gardens and have notified the education department that they

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intend to conduct this work in such a manner as to earn the school garden grant.

### EQUIPMENT.

According to regulations of the Education Department the necessary equipment for every school is as follows:—Maps, globe, library, dictionary, gazetteer or atlas, set of weights and measures, a supply for Form III, of history, geography and hygiene readers, also suitable supplementary readers for all the forms.

With the exception of the weights and measures which cost about \$10, practically all the prescribed equipment has been provided in 90 per cent. of the schools of East Lambton.

I might add that the Form III, readers already mentioned are very interesting

books and form a splendid introduction to the more detailed study of history, geography, and hygiene in Form IV. The increase in value of equipment in five years is \$4500.

### MISCELLANEOUS.

Under this heading I wish simply to discuss briefly the caretaker's work. This is to be taken into consideration in grading the classroom. Until a few years ago the teachers performed the duties of caretaker as well as their professional duties. At present it is difficult in some cases, to get a person who can be relied upon to do the work of caretaker as it should be done. I attach a great deal of importance to having clean, bright and attractive schoolrooms. Children are very susceptible to the influence of their surroundings. The ideals they will carry with them through life are formed in the schoolroom. I have therefore persistently urged upon trustees, teachers and pupils the desirability and absolute necessity of having the schoolroom kept clean and sanitary. In one instance I refused to grade a classroom because of lack of cleanliness, while in a few other instances I lowered the grading for similar reasons. I am pleased, however, to note a very marked improvement in the neatness, cleanliness and attractiveness of the majority of schoolrooms in my inspectorate.

### TEACHERS

Comfortable, attractive and well equipped schools may be provided; but unless good teachers are placed in charge, the results will be disappointing. Some one has calculated that the efficiency of schoolwork depends upon physical equipment to the extent of only ten per cent. and upon the personality of the teacher for the other ninety per cent. The motto I have endeavored to keep before trustees is this: "Seek first good teachers and then all other things shall be added unto you." I find that wherever an enthusiastic, cultured, forceful teacher is in charge it is very easy to secure all necessary improvements in accommodations and equipment.

Owing to a shortage of teachers in the province it has been somewhat difficult, in the last few years to secure legally qualified teachers for all schools. Lamb-

ton County, however, has not suffered nearly as much from this scarcity of teachers as many other counties have. The trustees of Lambton County acted wisely in advancing salaries, and thereby have been able to secure for nearly all of the schools competent and qualified teachers. In East Lambton there were only some six or eight temporary certificates asked for during the year 1911, whereas in several inspectorates where salaries are lower, a much larger number of temporary certificates had to be granted. According to the latest report of the Minister of Education the advance in salaries of rural school teachers in 1911, in the County of Lambton, exceeded that of any other county in the province. As a result we have in Lambton County a staff of teachers equalled by few counties and excelled by none. The school life of the average child consists of about seven years, and it is very important to the individual, the community and the state that none of these years shall be unprofitable. The trustees are therefore right in concluding that it is far more profitable to pay a liberal salary and get good returns, than to pay a smaller salary and incur the risk of subjecting the pupils to the enormous loss that any school in charge of a weak or incompetent teacher, must sustain through misjudged and misdirected teaching.

During the last half of year 1911, in East Lambton, 9 teachers held first-class certificates, 95 second-class, 18 third-class, 2 temporary.

### PUPILS' PROGRESS AND PROFICIENCY

During my visits to the various schools I was pleased to note a marked improvement in writing, history and geography. The writing of the high school entrance candidates at the 1911 examination was the best I have seen in fifteen years. In arithmetic more attention is being paid to accuracy and neatness. Reading in Third and Fourth Classes is as a rule poor. This is largely due to the fact that many of the teachers are not good readers, and therefore cannot entice the pupils to become proficient in that subject. The number of pupils successful at the annual midsummer promotion examination indicates satisfaction in practically all of the schools.

### ATTENDANCE AND CLASSIFICATION

4300 pupils were enrolled during the year, a decrease of 84 as compared with 1910, and a decrease of 851 as compared with 1905. The percentage of daily attendance was 65, the same as for 1910. I still find a few cases of parents and guardians violating the compulsory clause of the school act by failing to send children between the ages of 8 and fourteen regularly to school. I am doing all I can with the co-operation of trustees and teachers to prevent as far as possible any violation of this kind.

The classification of the pupils for the year was as follows: Primer, 951; First Book, 637; Second Book, 710; Third Book, 1036; Fourth Book, 882; Beyond Fourth Book, 84. This classification does not include those in the continuation schools.

### FINANCIAL

#### GRANTS TO RURAL SCHOOLS

Municipality	On Salary	On Certificate	Accommodation & Equipment	Library	Total Grant	County Grant
Brooke	\$1,575.10	\$332.50	\$236.60	\$	\$2,144.20	\$228.79
Dawn	1,318.00	195.00	229.31	22.40	1,754.71	207.93
Enniskillen	1,731.92	275.00	263.78		2,270.70	263.78
Euphemia	928.63	157.00	129.48	17.17	1,232.28	129.48
Warwick	1,170.90	242.50	196.83		1,610.23	196.83
Totals	\$6,724.55	\$1,202.00	\$1,056.00	\$39.57	\$9,012.12	\$1,026.81

Note—S. S. No. 5, Euphemia, (Florence) received a Government Grant for 5th Class work of \$88.16, and an equivalent County Grant of \$88.16; also a supplementary County Grant of \$75.00.

#### GRANT TO URBAN SCHOOLS

Municipality	Gov. Grant	County Grant for Continuation Work
Petrolia	\$528.58	
Watford	226.50	
*Oil Springs	580.85	508.85
*Alvinston	679.90	696.40
*Arkona	333.25	309.25

\*The Government grants in case of Oil Springs, Alvinston and Arkona include the grants for both public school and continuation work. The County Grant in each of these cases is for Continuation work and includes the equivalent of the legislative grant which the county is obliged to pay, together with a supplementary grant of \$150 each to Oil Springs and Alvinston, and \$100 to Arkona.

Both the Legislative and County Grants have been very liberal, and have aided very materially in increasing the efficiency of the schools.

Municipality	Receipts	Expenditures	Average cost per pupil	Average male salary	Average female salary
Brooke	\$23,336.42	\$16,915.20	\$28.09	\$525	\$512.89
Dawn	12,375.44	11,466.81	16.83	517	531.60
Enniskillen	28,255.36	17,016.81	19.27	586	513.95
Euphemia	15,425.05	10,453.65	27.15	600	522.00
Warwick	12,895.59	10,200.66	22.45	537	498.12
*Arkona	2,096.72	2,086.51	24.26	550	500.00
*Alvinston	2,465.22	1,364.87	11.09		466.66
*Oil Springs	2,232.38	2,138.64	15.06		437.50
Watford	2,769.71	2,559.07	12.54	775	425.00
Petrolia	10,201.72	10,196.25	14.36	950	440.00
Totals	\$112,053.61	\$84,456.47	\$19.11	\$630	\$484.77

\*Does not include Continuation Departments. This is reported separately to the Minister of Education.

As compared with 1910 the average cost per pupil increased 69 cents; the average male salary increased \$47.20 and the average female salary increased \$12.86. The increase of salaries in the rural schools was greater than in the urban schools. The average cost per pupil for the province in 1910 was \$20.50 as compared with \$18.42 for East Lambton for the same year.

### GENERAL

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candidates wrote on the County Fifth Class examination and of these 22 were successful.

The Education Department have now arranged for a Junior and Senior Fifth Class examination along the same lines as we have been conducting the County Fifth Class examination for the last two or three years. The examiner's fee to be paid by the County is \$1.25 per candidate for the Junior Examination. Each candidate, however, is to be charged an examination fee of \$3.00 which should be almost sufficient to defray all expenses in connection with the examination.

In conclusion I may say that I visited every one of the 124 schools and departments in my inspectorate twice in the year and in a few cases made supplementary visits as well. In fact I exceeded the number and length of visits required by Regulations. Inspectors are required to spend 120 days in visiting schools, whereas my visits aggregate 122 days.

I must express my sincere appreciation of the hearty co-operation on the part of teachers, trustees and public in general which I have everywhere received; and also wish to thank the members of the County Council for their very generous and enthusiastic manner in which they have supported the educational interests of the County.

Yours most respectfully,  
N. McDOUGALL,  
Inspector No. 2 Div., East Lambton.

## PLAIN TALK ABOUT PILES

Don't you believe that experience is better than hearsay? If you suffer from piles just try Zam-Buk. You can do so at our expense. So assured are we of the result that we will send you a free trial box if you send to our Toronto office full name and address and a one cent stamp to pay return postage.

Scores of people daily acquaint us with the benefit they have derived from the use of Zam-Buk for piles. Mr. F. Astridge, of 3 St. Paul St., St. Catharines Ont., says: "For five years I have suffered untold agony with protruding piles. The pain was so great at times I would almost scream."

"I lost weight and had no appetite, I tried everything I ever heard of for piles, as I was willing to take anything to get relief. It was useless, however, and I almost gave up in despair."

"One day a friend gave me a sample of Zam-Buk and told me of a friend of his who had been cured. I decided to try Zam-Buk, and the relief was encouraging. I used three boxes, and at the end of that time I was completely cured. I wish I could have got Zam-Buk years ago; it would have saved me a great deal of misery."

Zam-Buk will also be found a sure cure for cold sores, chapped hands, frost bites, ulcers, blood-poison, varicose sores, scald sores, ringworm, inflamed patches, babies' eruptions and chapped places, cuts, burns, bruises, and skin injuries generally. All druggists and stores sell at 50c. box, or post free from Zam-Buk Co., Toronto, upon receipt of price. You are warned against harmful imitations and substitutes. See the registered name, "Zam-Buk," on every package.

Many people never find that lucky pathway which lies between taking misfortune too seriously and laughing it off. Unless you want to be caught, you had better not take time to limp when some one really has you on the run.

There can be a difference of opinion on most subjects, but there is only one opinion as to the reliability of Mother Graves' Worm Exterminator. It is safe, sure and effectual.

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