

mulate and approve the most radical and epochal education bill that the world has ever seen.

The minister in charge of this bill was Herbert Fisher, a man without previous parliamentary experience, but he has displayed great powers of construction and administration.

The object of the bill is set forth in the preamble, which states:—

“The establishment of a National System of Education available for all persons capable of profiting thereby.”

Its three main principles are:—

(1) The raising of the school age from the present 12 years to 14 years. The local authorities have the power to raise this to 15 in their own districts.

(2) The establishment of continuation schools with compulsory attendance for a specified number of hours for all children between the ages of 14 and 16, or after seven years between 14 and 18.

(3) Drastic restrictions regarding child labor.

The Federal Government of the United States has also promised large grants to agricultural and other vocational education.

Why does the Dominion Government so long delay assistance along the same lines?

It has had the chance to lead. It does not even follow!

Success in all lines of endeavour is most marked when backed up by united effort. This is well illustrated in financial, industrial, and in national affairs.

Why should not the teaching profession profit by these examples?

The failure of teachers to obtain suitable remuneration for their services, for example, has been largely due to lack of cohesion among the teachers as a body in demanding a satisfactory return for their work, and in many cases, to underbidding each other. Trustee boards in rural districts especially, are often selected for their positions because of their well known ability to keep down expenses. The “thrift” they exercise in school matters is often at the expense of efficiency in the school. Many trustees will hire the cheapest teacher they can find, without regard to her qualification as a teacher. They will pay the highest price for stock for their farms, and for improved farm machinery; they will pay wages for farm help that would look like a fortune to many school teachers teaching for a mere pittance; but any kind of a teacher will do if she can be secured at a low salary; any kind of a school house with any kind of equipment is good enough for their children.

If teachers as a class hope to achieve anything for their betterment either from school boards or from the

government, they should follow the example of those of other avocations and organize. Possibly those best qualified to lead in this organization are occupying the best paid positions in the teaching profession, but they should be willing to lead the way and work out an organization that will be effective, for the good of the less fortunate.

A Teachers' Association for New Brunswick was formed at the Maritime Convention in Moncton last summer, and steps should be taken to include in it all N. B. teachers. A Public School Teachers' Union of Prince Edward Island was also formed at a convention recently held at Charlottetown, reference to which was made in our last issue. A good beginning has thus been made by these two provinces which should be followed up.

When trained teachers, who have spent all the early years of their lives in acquiring education and training for their work, to say nothing of the expense incurred, are paid less than day laborers for their services, the need of organized effort on the part of teachers is apparent.

All the schools in the Province of New Brunswick were closed by order of the Provincial Health Department, as a precautionary measure to prevent the spread of Spanish Influenza, beginning with Friday, the 11th October. An official notice from Chief Superintendent Carter appears in this issue of *The Review* as to the Government grants to teachers for the time the schools are closed by this order.

The schools and colleges of P. E. I. also were closed by the Provincial Health Department, from October 7th and until further notice. No general order for the closing of schools and colleges in Nova Scotia has been issued by their Health Department. Schools have been closed in a number of places by local boards of health.

It is safe to assume that many *Review* subscribers do not read the directions given under the heading “To Educational Review Subscribers,” following the Table of Contents, otherwise we think so many teachers would not remove to another place than the one for which the address is given on their magazine without either asking to have their paper discontinued or their address changed. Sometimes payment of subscription is repudiated because the *Review* has not been received by the subscriber for the above reason. A little consideration on the part of those concerned would lead them to see that this is neither proper nor ethical. Failure to receive the paper because proper notice has not been given to have the address changed is not sufficient reason for repudiating the claim for subscription price due.