

had power to inspect and supervise denominational schools, but if the legislature exercised this power, it might be held, upon an appeal to the Governor-General in Council, that it thereby gave recognition to these denominational schools and therefore relieved the rate-payers supporting them from the obligation of paying taxes for the upkeep of the public schools. These replies of Mr. Macmaster were to hypothetical questions submitted to him by the Manitoba government for a purpose. They have no relation to the actual case, because it is not proposed that in the compulsory education measure there would be any provision for the inspection or supervision of denominational schools.

Mr. Macmaster's finding completely vindicates the position taken by the Liberals, that the province has ample constitutional power to enact this legislation, and that its enactment would not involve to the slightest degree the reopening of the school question or any attempted limitation of the rights of the province to legislate upon all matters of education.

Public Organizations Demand Law

Christian Endeavor Convention, Portage la Prairie, March 8, 1909: "We, the Manitoba branch of the Christian Endeavor Union, now in session at Portage la Prairie, do hereby record most strongly our unanimous opinion that a law embodying compulsory education in Manitoba is absolutely essential, and we pray that such law be at once placed on the statute books of this province."

At the sixteenth annual meeting of the Free Kindergarten Association of Winnipeg, held January 24, 1909, addresses strongly urging the necessity of compulsory education were given by Mrs. Atkinson, First Vice-President, Mrs. Margaret Scott, and Mr. Falk, secretary of the Associated Charities. Mrs. Scott declared in her address that everywhere the nurses of the Association found children remaining at home instead of going to school, with unfortunate results to the community.

At the meeting of the Manitoba Educational Association, held in Winnipeg, April 16, 1909, a resolution was carried with practical unanimity which declared that "The Association, believing that the chief duty of the state is education, recommends that the compulsory law be placed on the statute books."

A year later, at the Education Convention held at Brandon, March 31, 1910, the following resolution was unanimously adopted: "That this Association reaffirms its belief in the necessity for compulsory education, and regrets the failure of the government to take any action in that direction."

At a meeting of the School Trustees section of the Manitoba Educational Association, held in Winnipeg, March 2nd, 1910, the following resolution was carried unanimously: "That this Convention believes it necessary that