

Fortunately, the many changing conditions of these last few years seem likely to bring a new recognition of the importance of education, a new realization of the necessity for many improvements in educational systems and, as a result, a new economic status for the teacher. In England, "the cardinal reform in education must be the increase in teachers' salaries." And this same reform is an absolute necessity in Canada. Not merely because teachers should receive increased payment for their services, but because increased salaries will mean better teachers and better teachers will mean better work in every department. Larger salaries will keep good teachers in the profession and will encourage them to improve their academic and pedagogical attainments; larger salaries will attract and hold competent instructors.

From an educational standpoint, real tragedies occur almost daily on account of inadequate salaries. Instances there are of important positions that cannot be filled by the right men and women because the salary offered is no inducement to those properly qualified by personality and by professional equipment. There are other cases of teachers who have been eminently successful in certain posts and who are not retained because the remuneration cannot be made equal to that available elsewhere. In the so-called "higher" educational sphere such occurrences are not rare but in rural education they constitute practically the prevailing condition. How often it happens that a board of rural trustees will not retain the services of a teacher who has done exceptionally successful work merely because an additional hundred or two hundred dollars is the obstacle! To each ratepayer the increase would mean only a few cents and would be a thousand times outweighed by the advantage of retaining a competent and experienced teacher for a continuous service of several years.

Not many teachers realize the immense amount of labour that is required of the county inspector. His hours are long; his holidays are few; his correspondence is voluminous; reports interminable form part of his ordinary routine of duty. Yet he must travel long distances in all kinds of weather, visit his schools, bring inspiration, guidance, and counsel to his teachers. For this and much other work his salary is comparatively meagre. Recently the maximum salary for inspectors in Saskatchewan has been raised to \$2,400 and an expense allowance of \$780. Some say that Saskatchewan "sets the pace" in its treatment of inspectors; for verification of this claim the necessary figures are not at hand. Perhaps the future will bring, in all Provinces, an increased salary and also office help for each inspector so that time needed for professional reading and for educational planning will not be spent on work that a stenographer might do.