

sequently annoying and injurious cross lights are the rule. The ventilation is provided by a variation of the Smead-Dowd system and like all gravity systems is of very unequal efficiency. The ceilings are of a most unusual height and so add to the difficulties of heating and ventilation. There are no playrooms, teachers private rooms, nor cloak rooms and in this, as in all the other buildings, the sanitary conveniences are without the building and are of the most crude character. Outside, the building is bare and uninviting and in need of extensive repairs. The grounds at the Central are fairly commodious or will be when properly levelled, but the old Dormer building, standing as it does in the middle of the grounds, seriously encroaches on the play space.

The Dormer building just spoken of is a single room, built of stone with a ceiling about 20 feet in height and heated by a stove. It was only intended as a makeshift and can never be anything else. There are, of course, no playrooms or cloak rooms and a little frame addition at the rear serves as a porch to its only door and also as a coalshed.

The West Ward building is also of stone and contains three rooms, which like those at the Central, are lighted from three sides and present the same objectionable features. The ceilings are of an unnecessary height and the rooms consequently difficult to heat. Owing to the difficulties of excavating, furnaces have never been placed in this school and stoves still serve to unequally and inadequately heat the different rooms. Ventilation is almost entirely dependent on the opening of windows with its attendant annoyances and dangers. Outside the building is plain and without ornament. The grounds are exposed to cold winds in winter and are dry and parched in summer and owing to their hilly nature the playing of field games is impossible.

The stone school at the corner of Queen and James streets is a single room building built in 1845 and abandoned as unsuitable for school purposes on at least two occasions, but, owing to the difficulty in securing accommodation, still of necessity used as a school room. It is long and narrow, with high church-like ceiling, lighted from both sides and so difficult to heat that in cold weather two stoves are employed. There are practically no playgrounds and moreover it is situated at the corner of two busy streets and quite close to the railway depot.

The Willard building is a comfortable room, of inconvenient shape situated in the rear of a Wellington street block and approached by a narrow alley. There are only a few square feet of playground and no grass. At best it is a crude makeshift. It, like the stone church school, is a rented building.

A glance at the amounts spent yearly for fuel, repairs and rent should be sufficient to impress anyone with the waste of the present system. For seven years fuel has averaged over \$500 per year, and is yearly increasing. Rental including tax remission totals at least \$250, while repairs that would be largely avoided in good buildings have for the past ten years averaged \$425 per year. Various other items of expense that could be saved might be enumerated.

One of the pleasing features of the development of the towns springing up throughout the Canadian West is the provision made for the education of the children. Churches wait, pavements wait, other civic improvements wait until schools are well provided for. Moreover the schools they build are commodious, expensive, and thor-