

was adopted with slight modifications. Officers of the Association were elected, and the time and place of next meeting agreed upon. Several of the teachers present spoke with high appreciation of the vigorous and noble efforts of our legislators in behalf of popular education, of the improved position of the teachers; and they said it now remained with teachers to do their part to make themselves worthy of that position, to occupy it well, to elevate and adorn it. All present seemed to feel desirous of organization, united efforts, interchange of ideas, stimulating each other in their work, and of cultivating a professional spirit. After passing a vote of thanks to the chairman and secretary, the meeting adjourned, to meet at the same place, on the first Saturday of August, 2 o'clock, p. m.

ARCHIBALD MACKINNON, Secretary.



OFFICIAL NOTICES.

EXTRACT FROM THE MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION, JULY 7TH, 1866.—“Provision being made by the School Law for the publication of a *Journal of Education*, the Council of Public Instruction directs that the said *Journal* be made the medium of official notices in connexion with the Educational Department.”

T. H. RAND,

Sec'y to C. P. I.

I. Holidays and Vacations.

Notice is hereby given to Trustees of Schools and others, that CHAPTER XI. of the COMMENTS AND REGULATIONS OF THE COUNCIL OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION. “Of Time in Session, Holidays, and Vacations” has been revised as follows:

HOLIDAYS.

The following Regulations have been added to SECTION 3, of the Chapter above named:

a. When for any cause the Trustees of a school shall deem it desirable that any prescribed Teaching Day should be given as a Holiday, the school or schools may be kept in session on the Saturday of the week in which such Holiday has been given, and such Saturday shall be held to be in all respects a legal Teaching Day.

b. When, owing to illness, or for any other just cause, a teacher loses any number or prescribed teaching days, such teacher shall have the privilege of making up for such lost days, to the extent of SIX during any Term, by teaching on Saturdays; but

c. No school shall be kept in session more than five days per week for any two consecutive weeks;

d. Nor shall any Teacher teach more than FIVE DAYS PER WEEK on the average (vacations not being counted) during the period of his engagement in any term.

The Anniversary of the QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY shall be a Holiday in all the Public Schools, as heretofore.

VACATIONS.

The following Regulations have been made in lieu of SECTION 4, of the Chapter above named:—

1. The SUMMER VACATION shall remain as heretofore, the “eight days” being held to mean week-days other than Saturdays.

2. Instead of two vacations during the summer term (a week at seed time and a fortnight at harvest) as heretofore, THREE WEEKS (15 week-days other than Saturdays) shall hereafter be given as vacation during the summer term, at such time or times as the Trustees shall decide. Nevertheless

3. In order that the due Inspection of Schools as required by law, may not be interfered with, each Inspector shall have power, notwithstanding anything in the foregoing Regulation, to give notice of the day or days on which he proposes to visit any school or schools in his county for the purposes of Inspection, and to require that on the day or days so named such school or schools shall be kept in session.

July, 1867.

II. To Teachers not supplied with Registers.

As a much larger number of schools are in operation this term, than was anticipated, the edition of Registers is insufficient to supply a copy for each teacher engaged. All teachers who have been unable to procure a Register are notified that till the close of the present term, (Oct. 31st, a careful record of the daily attendance of pupils will be accepted as a compliance with the requirements of the school law with respect to registration. In every such case, before signing the certificate contained in the TRUSTEES' RETURN, the teacher is authorized to erase the words “the prescribed Register,” and insert in their stead, “a record of the daily attendance of the pupils.”

May, 1867.

III. Teachers' Agreements.

The attention of Teachers and Trustees is again called to the necessity of complying with the provision of the Law in relation to the disposal of the County Fund. It appears from the School Returns of the past Term that some teachers have in their agreements with Trustees in respect to salary, assumed all risk as to the amount to be received from the County Fund. Such proceeding is contrary to the provisions of the law and directly subversive of a most important principle of the school system, since the pecuniary penalty imposed upon the inhabitants of the section by the absence and irregular attendance of pupils is thereby inflicted upon the teacher, while

the pecuniary rewards consequent upon a large and regular attendance of pupils at school is diverted from the people to the teacher. These results clearly tend to prevent the growth and development of a sentiment of responsibility and interest among all the inhabitants of each section, and thus measurably defeat the object of the whole system—the education of every child in the province.

The Superintendent of Education, therefore, calls the attention of Teachers and Trustees to the following

NOTICE

1. The COUNTY FUND is paid to the TRUSTEES of the section. The amount depends upon the number of pupils, the regularity of their attendance, and the number of prescribed teaching days on which school is open in any section during the term.

2. Teachers must engage with Trustees at a definite sum or rate. The Provincial grant is paid to teachers in addition to such specified sum.

3. The following form of agreement is in accordance with the law:

(Form of Agreement.)

Memorandum of Agreement made and entered into the — day of — A.D. 186 —, between (name of teacher) a duly licensed teacher of the — class of the one part, and (names of trustees) Trustees of School Section No. — in the District of — of the second part.

The said (name of teacher) on his (or her) part, in consideration of the below mentioned agreements by the parties of the second part, hereby covenants and agrees with the said (names of Trustees) Trustees as aforesaid and their successors in office, diligently and faithfully to teach a public school in the said section, under the authority of the said Trustees and their successors in office, during the School Year (or Term) ending on the thirty-first day of October next, (or the thirtieth day of April, as the case may be).

And the said Trustees and their successors in office on their part covenant and agree with the said (name of teacher) Teacher as aforesaid, to pay the said (name of teacher) out of the School Funds under their control, at the rate of — dollars for the School Year (or Term).

And it is hereby further mutually agreed that both parties to this agreement shall be in all respects subject to the provisions of the School Law and the Regulations made under its authority by the Council of Public Instruction.

In Witness whereof the parties to these presents have hereto subscribed their names on the day and year first above written.

Witness,

(Name of Witness.)

(Name of Teacher.)

(Names of Trustees.)

4. Each Inspector is instructed to report every case of illegal stipulation on the part of teachers, in reference to the County Fund.

May, 1867.

IV. To Trustees of Public Schools.

1. “A relation being established between the trustees and the teacher, it becomes the duty of the former, on behalf of the people, to see that the scholars are making sure progress, that there is life in the school both intellectual and moral, — in short, that the great ends sought by the education of the young are being realized in the section over which they preside. All may not be able to form a nice judgment upon its intellectual aspect, but none can fail to estimate correctly its social and moral tone. While the law does not sanction the teaching in our public schools of the peculiar views which characterize the different denominations of Christians, it does instruct the teacher “to inculcate by precept and example a respect for religion and the principles of Christian morality.” To the trustees the people must look to see their desires in this respect, so far as is consonant with the spirit of the law, carried into effect by the teacher.” — *Comments and Regulations* of Council of Public Instruction, p. 51, reg. 5.

2. Whereas it has been represented to the Council of Public Instruction that Trustees of Public Schools have, in certain cases, required pupils, on pain of forfeiting school privileges, to be present during devotional exercises not approved of by their parents; and whereas such proceeding is contrary to the principles of the School Law, the following additional Regulation is made for the direction of Trustees, the better to ensure the carrying out of the spirit of the Law in this behalf:—

ORDERED, That in cases where the parents or guardians of children in actual attendance on any public school (or department) signify in writing to the Trustees their conscientious objection to any portion of such devotional exercises as may be conducted therein under the sanction of the Trustees, such devotional exercises shall either be so modified as not to offend the religious feelings of those so objecting, or shall be held immediately before the time fixed for the opening or after the time fixed for the close of the daily work of the school; and no children, whose parents or guardians signify conscientious objections thereto, shall be required to be present during such devotional exercises.

March, 1867.

3. “The hours of teaching shall not exceed six each day, exclusive of the hour allowed at noon for recreation. Trustees, however, may determine upon a less number of hours. A short recess should be allowed about the middle of both the morning and afternoon session. In elementary departments, especially, Trustees should exercise special care that the children are not confined in the school room too long.” — *Comments and Regulations* of Council of Public Instruction, p. 43, reg. 2.

V. Amendments to the School Law.

The following Act to amend the general law of the Province concerning public schools, passed during the late session of parliament, is published for the information of school officers and the people generally:—

AN ACT FURTHER TO AMEND THE ACT FOR THE BETTER ENCOURAGEMENT OF EDUCATION.

Be it enacted by the Governor, Council and Assembly, as follows:

1. The several Boards of Commissioners shall have power at the semi-annual meeting in May of each year, by vote of at least two-thirds present thereat, to unite two or more School Sections into one School Section, on a petition addressed to the Board of Commissioners by a majority of the rate-payers of each of the sections, setting forth that they have agreed among themselves on the terms on which the existing liabilities shall be borne by the rate-payers in the several sections.