

Education

CREATION of a SINGLE SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION

for the

ISLAND OF MONTREAL

Statement by the Provincial Association of Protestant Teachers.

The Executive of the Provincial Association of Protestant Teachers has taken note of recent proposals for the creation of a single School Board to administer Protestant Education on the Island of Montreal. The Executive feels that teachers have a vital concern in any such fundamental change of policy, not merely because their own personal and material interests may be involved, but still more because the peculiar responsibilities and experiences of teachers impose upon them in a special degree the duty of pointing out the great educational needs which have to be furthered and safeguarded under any administrative system.

Teachers note with satisfaction repeated assurances that their special personal interests will be adequately protected in any new scheme of administration that may take effect. At the same time they feel that grave issues of a purely educational kind may be overlooked or minimized unless attention is specifically called to them by those qualified by experience to do so. While economy in administration is at all times important, and not only in times of depression, it yet remains true that apart from temporary emergencies the ultimate justification for any sweeping change is that the genuine educational opportunities of boys and girls are thereby increased and improved.

Accordingly the Executive has appointed a Special Committee to take action on behalf of the Association and this Committee, as representing the Association, desires now to submit the following statement.

The Association must not be taken as expressing any opinion for or against the proposed administrative change. Its purpose is rather to point to certain vital educational ends which have to be served and to indicate some principles of organization and action which would have to be observed if the proposed step is to justify itself in the form of solid gains for education.