

I am increasing the representation of teachers, both High School and Public School, on this Council. No text book will hereafter be even considered for authorization unless it has been published and circulated at least six months before authorization is applied for.

When application is made for authorization the Department will send the book in question to a Committee of the Educational Council for perusal, criticism and report.

If a Public School text book, care will be taken that Public School teachers will be adequately represented on this committee.

In this way there can be no room for even a suspicion of favoritism either towards an author or a publisher.

REFORMS.

In lengthening the Normal School term, in giving your Association adequate representation in the Educational Council, and in assigning to the Council virtually the supervision and control of text-book authorization, I unhesitatingly believe that I am on safe ground.

I earnestly desire to improve the County Model Schools, to make radical changes in the matter of Public Libraries, and to so alter the course of studies as to cause it to conform to modern needs and conditions.

In all these matters I mean to consult your Association. The teacher in some countries, noticeably Germany, has the status of a civil servant, and in that way the retirement or superannuation question is solved.

The time has come in Ontario when we must seriously consider how best to solve that important problem.

I hope, Mr. Chairman, that the deliberations of the Association, and of its every sub-department, may result in lasting public good.