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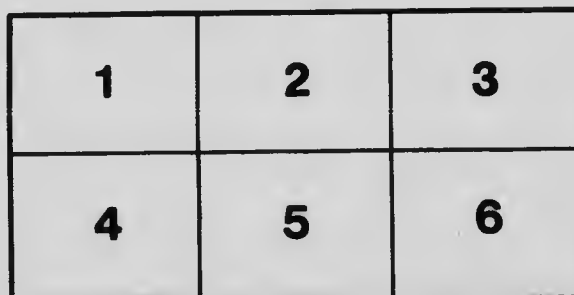
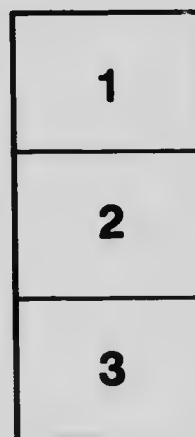
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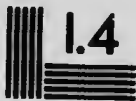
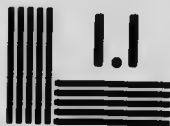
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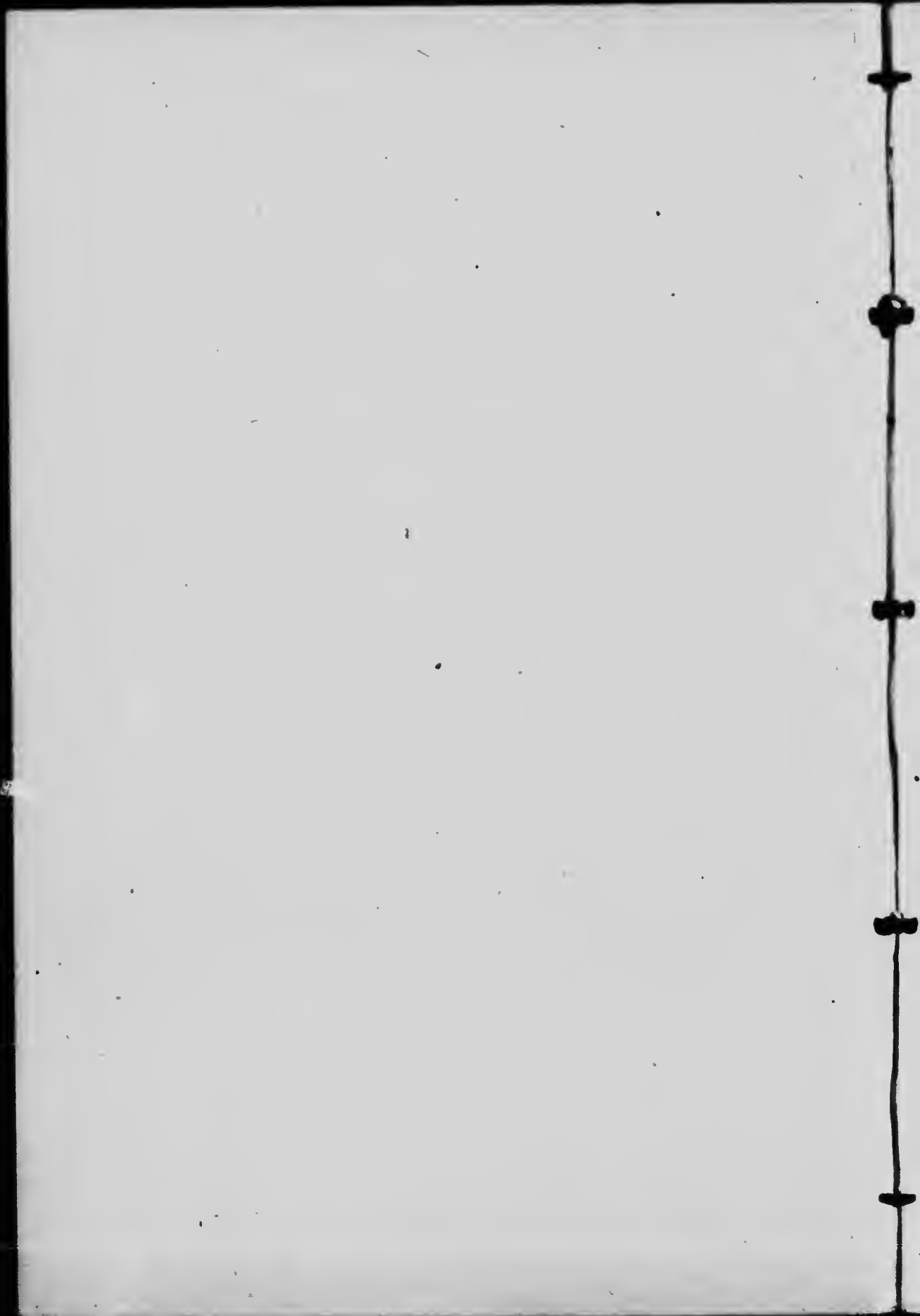
Commission of Enquiry
on Technical Education

CANADIAN
MANUFACTURERS' ASSOCIATION

1906

MEMORIAL
*to the Dominion Government
for a Commission of Enquiry
on TECHNICAL EDUCATION.*

*Presented by the
Canadian Manufacturers' Association
May 11th, 1906.*



Memorial to Dominion Government for Commission of Enquiry on Technical Education.

To His Excellency the Right Honorable Sir Albert Henry George, Earl Grey, Governor-General of Canada, in Council:

Sir,—Your petitioners, representing the Canadian Manufacturers' Association, beg to present the following resolution, unanimously passed at the last Convention of Manufacturers, asking you to appoint a commission on technical education. It reads as follows:

“Be it resolved, that the Dominion Government be requested to appoint a commission to report on the best method for establishing a comprehensive national system of Technical Education to provide Canadian industry and commerce with trained assistants from amongst the Canadian people, and thereby aid in developing Canadian industry, and do away with the present condition of affairs, which compels employers to go abroad for men to occupy the more responsible and more remunerative positions in Canadian enterprises.”

The importance of technical training and of technical research to national development needs no emphasis. Along with large individual enterprises a vast number of smaller ones are springing up here, and Canada is rapidly

becoming an industrial country. Yet the question of how best to provide for industrial education has never been thoroughly considered. Canada has wonderful natural resources. How they can be best safeguarded and exploited is the problem.

As regards settled educational opinion, to use a phrase of Mr. Gladstone, it is a "floundering moment." Practically every Province has the problem before it now, or it will have in the very near future. Accordingly, to arrive at some conclusion as to our educational wants, and as to what help may be expected respectively from the Dominion, Provinces, and municipalities, are matters of general interest. It is truly impossible rightly to value the benefits that should flow from concerted, systematic action.

Prompt consideration is all the more urgent because of a curious anomaly. The alien Labor Act prohibits business men from importing technically trained help from the United States. Yet no serious effort is being made to give Canadian artisans facilities for securing the necessary expert knowledge.

The resolution we are submitting to you has been endorsed not only by the Convention, but by each Branch of the Manufacturers' Association at Toronto, Montreal, Quebec, Halifax, Winnipeg, and Vancouver. So that it embodies the matured wish of industrial leaders from the Atlantic to the Pacific. (1)

It is significant that the Labor Convention held in Toronto last September passed a similar resolution. Capital and labor are thus a unit in asking you to provide for a careful survey of the field of industrial education. (2)

Our leading Universities have endorsed it. Letters supporting it have been received from the Principals of Laval, McGill, Toronto, Queen's, Dalhousie and Manitoba Universities. (3)

The B. N. A. Act.

In fact, the only objection suggested by any one is the apparent obstacle of the B. N. A. Act, which leaves education to the Provinces. But the same Act also entrusts the regulation of trade and commerce to the Dominion; and we shall point out how Federal Governments other than our own have felt constrained to interpret the expressions, "education" and "regulation of trade and commerce" in the light of modern needs. We shall point out also how our own Dominion has felt it necessary to move in the same direction. The B. N. A. Act, therefore, is no barrier to action.

As an example of the policy of Federal Governments in other countries, permit us first to cite Germany:

The Example of Germany.

When the German Empire was reorganized in 1871 an important part of the central Government's trade policy was its provision for an Imperial Physical and Technical Institute. This institute determines standards as well as carries on research for the general benefit of German industry. Under the presidency of some of the most eminent scientists its certificates of quality to various German manufactures and its expert suggestions explain in no small measure the rapid progress and heretofore unrivalled position of German instruments of precision. Supplementing it is the Imperial Industrial Museum at Berlin, which in completeness and magnificence has become an example for all the world of the great help a Museum can be to mechanics, designers and others. The Imperial Government also aids the Shipbuilding and Navigation Schools on the Baltic.

The Example of Switzerland.

In Switzerland decentralization is the keynote of the Constitution, and education, apart from the maintenance of a central University, is in charge of the Cantonal

Governments. Yet the Federal Government supports agricultural, industrial and commercial instruction in the Cantonal colleges. It has also established in Zurich, on behalf of industry, a physical laboratory which is regarded by some as the greatest of its kind in the world. (4)

The Example of the United States.

With regard to education the Constitution of the United States is in many ways most like our own. Yet in 1867 the Federal Government established a Bureau of Education for the double purpose of collecting and diffusing information likely to promote the cause of education. (5) In fact, before the middle of the century Federal aid to industrial education had been advocated on the ground of national interest in trade and industry. In 1862 Congress adopted a favorable attitude and passed the Morrill Act, entitled "An Act donating Public Lands to the several States and Territories who may provide Colleges for the benefit of Agricultural and Mechanical Arts." Thirty thousand acres of public lands for every Senator and Congressman was granted to each State. Instruction was to be given in "such branches of learning as are related to agriculture and the mechanic arts in such a manner as the Legislature of the States may respectively prescribe in order to promote the liberal and practical education of the industrial classes in several pursuits of life." These land grants amounted to 13,000,000 acres, of an estimated value of over \$12,000,000.

A second Morrill Act was passed in 1890. It provided for an appropriation for each State of \$15,000 in 1890, which was to increase each year by \$1,000 until it reached a fixed maximum of \$25,000. (6) This second grant amounts to more than \$1,500,000 per year, all of which means that the Federal Government now furnishes 40.8 per cent. of the revenues of all schools of technology. (7)

Recently the United States has followed Germany in establishing a combined research and standardizing institute. In the new Department of Commerce and Labor this

Bureau of Standards publishes the results of its researches, issues certificates of quality, and is rapidly becoming a consulting authority of the greatest value to American industry.

Federal support of the magnificent National Industrial Museum at Washington is also an item of prime importance.

The Example of England and France.

In England one outcome of tariff reform and other industrial problems is a series of technical colleges, of which the University of Birmingham is a striking example. As in Germany, over and above the work of actual instruction stands the five-year-old National Physical Laboratory. In France the Conservatory of Arts and Crafts has been remodelled with the same end in view, that is, with the purpose of combining industrial research and standardizing. We mention England and France merely to show that, like Germany and the United States, they too are alive to the importance of a central industrial institute. (8)

In short, the most progressive Governments of the world, whether Federal or not, have been compelled actively to aid national industrial development.

The Dominion Has Made a Start.

We gladly recognize that, in a certain sense, this Dominion has already extended aid in various ways to industrial education. It has:

(a) Established experimental farms, to which forestry and other departments have been added.

(b) Provided for general engineering instructions in the Kingston Military College.

(c) Established marine biological research stations in Georgian Bay and at Gaspé, and at Kingston a school of navigation.

(d) Given financial aid to Industrial Exhibitions, Royal Society of Canada, Art Schools (through the Royal Canadian Academy of Art), to a National Art Gallery, and to the Canadian Mining Institute.

(e) Established what may be called an incipient Bureau of Standards, having charge also of adulteration of foodstuffs.

(f) Provided for special lectures on the Metric System by a University professor; also for special experiments in connection with electric smelting, which may alone prove of untold value to this country.

(g) Provided for the education of Indians, as well as for education in the Territories.

(h) Made some provision for a National Museum.

(i) Through the Intercolonial Railway it pays \$2,500 yearly to the Railway Department of McGill University.

Thus in various ways the Dominion Government is already evincing direct interest in our educational problems. The petition which we have the honor of submitting to you merely asks that on behalf of trade and commerce an attempt be made to come to some conclusion as to ways and means by which Canadians may secure requisite industrial education. As pointed out, it is endorsed by sentiment at home and supported by precedent abroad. Technical education, indeed, would seem to be an essential part of a scientific tariff policy.

Foreign Correspondence Schools.

It is significant of the acute situation that young Canadians wishing to fit themselves as mechanics have to turn for their training to foreign Correspondence Schools. The Montreal Branch of our Association conducted a careful enquiry into conditions in Montreal and found that not less than \$100,000 was paid out yearly by Montreal me-

chanics alone to such institutions. Similar reports are to hand from other centres like St. John, Toronto, Ottawa, Hamilton, Winnipeg, Vancouver, etc., with the result that Canadian mechanics are paying out annually at least a half a million dollars for instruction that on all grounds of national policy they are entitled to procure at home.

Wherefore your petitioners pray that Your Excellency in Council may be pleased to accede to the request for the early appointment of a commission on technical education.

As in duty bound your petitioners will ever pray.

(Signed) S. MORLEY WICKETT,
Chairman Technical Education Committee.

(Signed) C. C. BALLANTYNE,
President Canadian Manufacturers' Association.

(Signed) J. F. M. STEWART,
Secretary Canadian Manufacturers' Association

APPENDIX I.

(1)—The communications from the Manitoba and British Columbia Branches read as follows:—

Resolution on Technical Education from Manitoba Branch, Canadian Manufacturers' Association.

"WHEREAS Western Canada, which is now attracting great numbers of emigrants to engage in agricultural pursuits, has within itself wonderful possibilities for industrial development, and will have within a short time an enormous consuming population within easy reach of its cities;

"AND WHEREAS, there is every reason to believe that there will spring up in Western Canada manufacturing centres to compare with Chicago, St. Paul, Minneapolis, and other Western United States cities, which will require technically trained workmen;

"RESOLVED, that the Manitoba Branch of the Canadian Manufacturers' Association cordially support as being in the best interests of and closely identified with the trade and commerce of the Dominion, the resolution passed by the Canadian Manufacturers' Association requesting the Government to appoint a commission to report on the best method for establishing a comprehensive national system of technical education, to train Canadians to keep pace with the rapid strides in our industrial development."

Communication on Technical Education from British Columbia Branch, Canadian Manufacturers' Association.

"As we understand that it is the intention of the Technical Education Committee of the Canadian Manu-

facturers' Association to personally present a report dealing with this most important subject to the Government at Ottawa in the near future, I am instructed to write you that this Branch of the Association desires to place itself on record as being entirely in sympathy with the effort which is being made to advance the cause of Technical Education.

"I may say the question was one of the chief subjects of discussion at our last meeting, and a resolution was adopted that this Branch of the Canadian Manufacturers' Association assist in every way to obtain the desired end. If it is possible we will send a delegate to accompany the deputation to Ottawa, but owing to the time taken to make the journey we may not be able to get any one to go, much as we would like to be present. It is a subject which appeals to all the manufacturers here, especially to those engaged in lumbering, fishing and mining industries, and we would ask that you strongly urge upon the Dominion Government the necessity of appointing a commission to enquire into the needs of our country, which in this respect are very great indeed."

(2)—Resolution passed at Labor Convention at Toronto, September, 1905:—

"WHEREAS, the Dominion and Provincial Governments of Canada lack greatly in schools for technical education, and are very much behind Germany and France in this respect, and in addition, the United States, which is our closest and keenest competitor in trade matters;

"BE IT RESOLVED, that the incoming executive committee be instructed to appeal to the Federal and Provincial Governments to enact such legislation, and make such appropriations as will permit the mechanic and artisan of Canada the privilege of education on lines of electric and civil engineering, chemistry, wood-carving, modeling, etc. In spite of the fact that the Dominion Government in the past has said that, according to the British North America Act, all education is relegated to the Provincial Governments, this matter is one of national import, and could be taken up under the Department of Trade and Commerce, and be well within their scope."

(3)—Excerpts from letters from presidents of our leading universities endorsing the petition:—

Laval.

“Le projet sur lequel vous voulez bien attirer mon attention est des plus importants. Il intéresse grandement L'Université dont je suis le Chancelier et elle est prête à vous aider à le réaliser. . . . Je souhaite que puisse se réaliser le projet que vous m'exposez dans votre lettre et je vous prie de me croire.

Votre tout dévoué,

• (Signed) L. N. ARCH. DE QUEBEC.”

McGill.

“In acknowledging your favor of the 7th, I beg to say that I have previously been in communication with the former Secretary of your Association in regard to the matter in which you ask for my opinion. If your Association is prepared to admit Government control over such a system of technical education as you may wish to see instituted, I am sure you are taking the best possible means in seeking to identify the movement with the Department of Trade and Commerce at Ottawa.

“It seems to me, moreover, that the less settled portions of the Dominion would have an opportunity of benefiting by what is being done elsewhere, I mean in such centres as Montreal and Toronto, if some central agency were called into existence by which their efforts could be stimulated.

“The university would, of course, always gladly cooperate so far as might be possible, with any agency whatever, that has for its aim and object the promotion of so important a branch.

Yours faithfully,

(Signed) W. PETERSON,
Principal.”

Toronto.

“I understand that the Canadian Manufacturers' Association is about to memorialize the Dominion Government requesting that a commission be appointed to

enquire and report on the question of Industrial Education for Canada, including the question of federal museums.

"In view of the importance of industrial education in the development of the enormous resources of the Dominion of Canada, and in view also of what has been done by other progressive countries for the promotion of industrial training, the establishment of industrial museums, etc., I consider it highly desirable that a comprehensive enquiry, such as is proposed, should be undertaken, and I have much pleasure in giving the memorial of the Manufacturers' Association my hearty endorsement. Such an enquiry cannot fail to elicit a mass of valuable information regarding the industrial circumstances and necessities of our own country as a whole, and it will at the same time show clearly by comparison with other countries what steps should be taken to put the Dominion of Canada on some sort of basis of equality with other competing countries.

Yours faithfully,

(Signed) J. LOUDON,

President."

Queen's

"The subject is one which requires careful consideration. . . . Meanwhile would like to express my approval of the course proposed in the printed extract enclosed in your letter, to the effect that the Dominion Government should appoint a commission to deal with the subject, as one seriously affecting our manufacturing interests.

Believe me, yours faithfully,

(Signed) DANIEL M. GORDON,

President."

Dalhousie.

"One thing we may all be certain of, unless this work is undertaken by some one, Canada must be content to drop behind in the industrial race. We are doing all we can down here to impress this great truth upon the people and will be happy to co-operate with you in any way we can.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed) JOHN FORREST,

President."

Manitoba.

"Your letter concerning a Dominion Commission of Enquiry on Technical Education finds me *en route* for England . . . I must accordingly be brief. But I wish to assure you that the problem is one of great and growing importance, not alone for Manitoba but for Canada at large . . . The University of Manitoba will be glad to further the suggested Commission to the best of its ability.

Yours faithfully,

(Signed) GEORGE BRYCE,
President."

(4)—The Swiss Federal Government's grants to Industrial and Technical Schools in 1887 were 220,344 fr., as against 618,085 fr. from the cantons and municipalities. The Federal Government also endows certain travelling lectureships.

(5)—The Bureau of Education at Washington was established for the purpose of :—

(1)—"Collecting such statistics of fact as shall show the condition and progress of education in the several states and territories ; and

(2)—"Diffusing such information respecting the organization and management of school systems and methods of teaching as shall aid the people of the United States in the establishment and maintenance of efficient school systems, and otherwise promote the cause of education."

(6)—The money was to be made from sales of public lands, and was to be applied "only to instruction in agricultural and mechanical arts, the English language, and the various branches of mathematical, physical, natural and economic science, with special reference to their application to the industries of life."

(7)—According to the Bureau of Education Report there are forty-nine State colleges of agriculture and mechanic arts, besides sixteen colored colleges endowed by Congress. These colleges are devoting more and more attention to industrial education. Forty-four out of the forty-nine State colleges provide courses in mechanical engineering, thirty-eight in electrical engineering, thirty-seven in civil engineering, twenty-one in mining engineering, six in architecture, four each in metallurgical,

railway and textile engineering, three in ceramics, etc. In 1890 83.9 per cent. of the college expenditures were for industrial arts and sciences. Federal grants to June, 1904, totalled \$31,157,588, \$15,202,000 being in money. According to a report prepared for the St. Louis Exposition, the revenues of higher educational institutes in the United States were derived from the following sources :—

Class of Institution.	Fees.	Endowments.	State or Municipality.	Federal Government.	Other sources.
	%	%	%	%	%
All higher educational institutes.....	38	24	19	8.7	9.3
Universities and colleges (for men and women).....	37	39	20	4	9.3
Higher colleges for women.....	72	17	10.8
Minor colleges for women.....	86	2	3	..	9
Schools of technology..	12.8	12.3	26.4	40.8	7.7

(8)—In 1901 the French Government appropriated for the Paris Museum of Natural History 967,500 fr.; for the Conservatoire des Arts et Metiers, 500,000 frs.; for L'Ecole Central des Arts et Manufactures, 700,000 fr.

(9)—The appropriation for the Georgian Bay Marine Station is \$1,500; for the Gaspé Station, \$2,000. In 1899 the Gaspé Station was voted \$7,000, mostly for equipment. On the School of Navigation and Naval Training Ship somewhat over \$6,000 was spent in 1904.

APPENDIX II.

(1)—Extract from the Annual Address of President C. C. Ballantyne, at the Annual Meeting of Canadian Manufacturers' Association in Winnipeg, September, 1906.

“Probably the greatest need of manufacturers at the present time is skilled help. The Association has not hesitated to express its disapproval of the emigration policy of the Dominion, which discourages skilled mechanics from coming to Canada. In addition to this, the Alien Labor Law is designed to prevent manufacturers from bringing such men to Canada; and further, no steps are being taken to train such men at home. The Technic-

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al Education Committee presented a memorial to the Dominion Government asking for the appointment of a commission for the purpose of indicating a national system of technical training. This is greatly needed in Canada, and if we are to keep pace with the United States and European countries we must give our people every opportunity to attain skill."

(2)—Resolution of Canadian Manufacturers' Association at Winnipeg Convention, September, 1906:

"WHEREAS, the two last Conventions of the Canadian Manufacturers' Association unanimously urged the great importance of better facilities for the Canadian workmen and manufacturer for technical education, and appointed a special committee to wait on the Dominion Government to ask for the appointment of a commission to report on the most advisable methods for supplying these facilities;

"AND WHEREAS, this Committee has presented the Association's request, which has been endorsed by the leaders of educational thought as well as by organized labor;

"BE IT RESOLVED, that the Association again place itself on record as feeling more and more keenly, and recognizing more and more clearly the great call for better facilities for technical training adapted to our natural resources and to our industrial developments and as being most desirous of the Government taking early action, and that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Premier and Members of the Dominion Cabinet."

(3)—Extract from report of the Executive Committee of the Trades and Labor Congress at Victoria, September, 1906:

"This subject (Technical Education) has become one of great and immediate importance. Resolutions advocating the appointment of a commission to collect data upon the subject of technical education as a preliminary to the foundation of technical schools by the Dominion of Canada, have been passed by trades unions, and combined efforts are being made by the representatives of your Congress and of the Canadian Manufacturers' Association to induce the Government to act. The question will be brought up early next session."

(4)—The Press of Canada of all shades of political opinion has unitedly endorsed the memorial.

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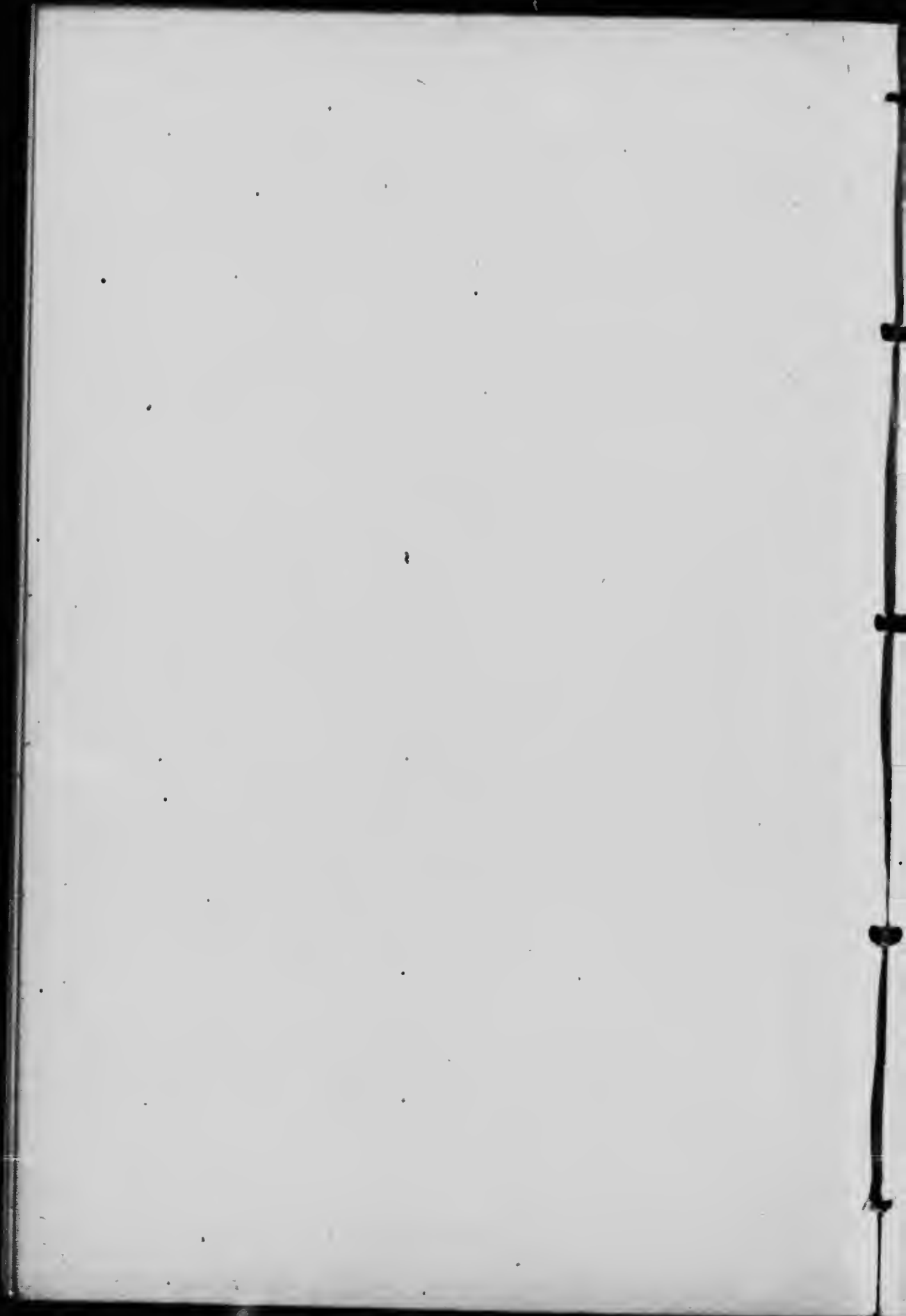
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APPENDIX III.

The Memorial on Technical Education presented by the Canadian Manufacturers' Association to the Dominion Government in May, 1906, was endorsed by all branches of the Association, by repeated Trades and Labor Congresses, and by educational leaders representing each of our leading universities.

Since then Boards of Trade throughout Canada have entered a strong plea for the favorable acceptance of the Memorial. Their resolutions are given in the following pages. It can therefore be said that public sentiment is unanimous in urging that the Dominion Government should provide for a commission on industrial education at the earliest possible moment.



APPENDIX III.

Copies of Resolutions passed by Boards of Trade throughout Canada, in support of the Memorial of the Canadian Manufacturers' Association for a Commission of Inquiry on Technical Education.

Halifax.

"BE IT RESOLVED, that in view of the facts that the foremost nations of the world have definitely proven that technical education is the greatest weapon of modern industrial warfare, and that Canada's immense natural resources should be intelligently and efficiently developed by the most modern methods, and whereas, Canada owes it to Canadians to furnish them the technical training adequate to carry on such development, that the Dominion Government be requested to appoint an able commission of investigation to ascertain the best measures for establishing technical education in this Dominion of Canada."

HALIFAX, N.S., Nov. 26th, 1906.

St. John.

"WHEREAS, the scarcity and need of skilled labor throughout Canada is becoming more and more marked and is proving a very serious handicap to the country along industrial and other lines; and believing that it is the duty of the Federal Government to take such steps within their power as may be necessary to overcome this difficulty;

"THEREFORE RESOLVED, that this Board heartily concur in the resolution presented to the Government by the Canadian Manufacturers' Association, urging that a committee be appointed to report upon the best method of establishing a comprehensive national system of tech-

nical education which will afford our young men an opportunity to secure such a training in their own country as will enable employers who require skilled help in any lines to obtain the same without having to seek it abroad."

St. JOHN, N.B., Nov. 9th, 1906.

Quebec.

"WHEREAS, one of the most serious barriers to the development of Canadian industry to-day is the scarcity of skilled help;

"WHEREAS, manufacturers are experiencing more and more difficulty in securing competent workmen to man their factories;

"WHEREAS, workmen too are complaining of the lack of educational facilities whereby they may qualify themselves for positions of greater responsibility;

"RESOLVED, that we respectfully recommend to the Federal Government the appointment of a commission to report on the best means of establishing a national system of technical education, one planned to care for the needs of the country at large, one which will permit of co-operation among the municipalities, the Provinces and the Dominion;

"RESOLVED, that we urge respectfully the Government to take action on the matter as soon as possible after the opening of the approaching session.

"Que copies de cette resolution soient adressées à Sir Wilfrid Laurier et au Secrétaire de l'Association des Manufacturiers Canadiens."

QUEBEC, QUE., Nov. 14th, 1906.

Montreal.

"RESOLVED, that the Council of the Montreal Board of Trade, which has long recognized the great need in this country of technical schools for the provision of trained employees for our manufacturing industries, and which has endeavored to promote the cause of technical education in this city, heartily endorses the memorial of the Canadian Manufacturers' Association submitted to the

Dominion Government on 11th May, 1906, which presented the following resolution:

'Be it resolved, that the Dominion Government be requested to appoint a commission to report on the best method for establishing a comprehensive national system of technical education to provide Canadian industry and commerce with trained assistants from amongst the Canadian people, and thereby aid in developing Canadian industry, and do away with the present condition of affairs, which compels employers to go abroad for men to occupy the more responsible and more remunerative positions in Canadian enterprises.'

"THAT the Council prays the Dominion Government to appoint said commission on technical education during the forthcoming session of Parliament."

MONTREAL, QUE., Oct. 31st, 1906.

Ottawa.

EXTRACT FROM LETTER OF SECRETARY, MR. CECIL BETHUNE

"We are ready to co-operate with you in any way to accomplish the establishment of a thorough system of Technical Education, which our Board has long considered one of our greatest national necessities."

OTTAWA, ONT., DEC. 15th, 1906.

Smith's Falls.

"RESOLVED, that the members of the Smith's Falls Board of Trade, in general meeting assembled, express their approval, and do hereby express their approval and support of the recommendations embraced in Memorial already submitted to the Government, praying that a Commission of Enquiry on Technical Education be appointed at an early date; and we urge further, that prompt action should be taken with the view of providing with the least possible delay more adequate facilities than now exist for a comprehensive plan of technical education for the young people of this growing country."

SMITH'S FALLS, ONT., Feb. 5th, 1907.

Kingston.

"RESOLVED, that the Board of Trade of the City of Kingston endorse the petition of the Canadian Manufacturers' Association for the appointment of a commission to report on the best method of establishing a comprehensive national system of technical education to promote Canadian industry and commerce with trained assistants from among the Canadian people, and thereby aid in developing Canadian industry;

"That a copy of this resolution be forwarded to Sir Wilfrid Laurier, and the Hon. William Harty."

KINGSTON, ONT., Oct. 30th, 1906.

Peterborough.

"WHEREAS, it is now fully demonstrated that from the Atlantic to the Pacific our country is rich in minerals, a fact confirmed by the action of foreign capitalists in investing millions of money in establishing smelting works for the reduction of ores and the manufacture of steel and iron;

"AND WHEREAS, this abundance of mineral wealth promises a great future to this country if rightly utilized;

"AND WHEREAS, in the competition of nations those countries have the vantage where the highest attainments have been reached in science and technical education;

"BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, that in the opinion of this Board it is incumbent upon our Provincial Government to make most liberal provision in our universities and technical schools for the imparting of the highest education in such science as may be applied for the fullest development and utilization of our mineral wealth.

PETERBOROUGH, ONT., November 30th, 1906.

Lindsay.

"RESOLVED, that the Board of Trade of the Town of Lindsay heartily endorse the position taken by the Canadian Manufacturers' Association regarding technical education, and that the Dominion Government be me-

morialized to take the matter up during the coming session and to do what they can towards meeting the serious want that is felt by manufacturers and working men all over the country."

LINDSAY, ONT., Oct. 27th, 1906.

Toronto.

On March 5th, 1901, a large deputation, consisting of delegates appointed by the Boards of Trade from all parts of Canada, assembled in the rooms of the Ottawa Board of Trade and subsequently waited upon the Government to urge the importance of considering the question of technical education, and to devise some means for the introduction of an efficient system of industrial training in all the Provinces.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier and other members of the Cabinet listened attentively to the arguments advanced in favor of energetic action along the lines suggested, the deputation emphasizing the importance of such action upon the trade and commerce of the country.

The Premier expressed difficulty on the constitutional point of provincial jurisdiction in educational matters, to which it was pointed out in reply, that the establishing of various experimental farms by the Dominion for the instruction of the agriculturist was a precedent for the request made.

Since that time the Dominion Government has been active in extending support to many helpful adjuncts of education that should find their place in a well considered system, but have not comprehensively dealt with the larger question to which attention was then directed.

The importance of the question stands first among our many problems and more than any other will directly effect the facilitating of national progress and develop the power of the Canadian people to compete in the world's markets. This will necessitate a preliminary training more ample and appropriate than in the past. In commerce and industry conditions are constantly changing and methods for preparing our people for their future must be invented with discriminating foresight, established with prudence and maintained with liberality.

A comprehensive system of technical education for Canada means the possibility of the utilization of much that is now wasted, to the increased happiness of the individual and the enrichment of society.

Providence has endowed us with resources no other nation possesses. Shall it be said of us that we cannot

develop our inheritance for want of expert artisans? And yet it must be confessed we are at present in such a position.

National development depends upon the skill and resource with which the varied interests of our country are directed.

Prosperity can only find an abiding place permanently with our people when our industries are directed by the highest skill, which can only be attained by means of the very best system of technical education.

To remedy existing hindrances to our industrial development which have been very fully pointed out in the recent memorial of the Canadian Manufacturers' Association to the Dominion Government, dated May 11th, 1906, for a commission of enquiry on technical education, the Council of the Board of Trade of the City of Toronto desires to endorse said memorial and to support the resolution reading as follows:

"BE IT RESOLVED, that the Dominion Government be requested to appoint a commission to report on the best method for establishing a comprehensive national system of technical education to provide Canadian industry and commerce with trained assistants from amongst the Canadian people and thereby aid in developing Canadian industry."

We would further urge that early action be taken to accomplish the object of said resolution.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

TORONTO, ONT., Nov. 8th, 1906.

Orillia.

"BE IT RESOLVED, that the Dominion Government be requested to appoint a commission to report on the best method for establishing a comprehensive national system of Technical Education to provide Canadian industry and commerce with trained assistants from amongst the Canadian people, and thereby aid in developing Canadian industry."

ORILLIA, ONT., Nov. 21st, 1906.

Hamilton.

" WHEREAS, it has been represented to the Hamilton Board of Trade that the Canadian Manufacturers' Association memorialized the Dominion Government in May last asking for the appointment of a Commission to report on the best means of establishing a national system of technical education;

" AND WHEREAS, the Hamilton Board of Trade is in full sympathy with the objects of the Canadian Manufacturers' Association in its desire to have such a commission appointed, believing that Canada needs the establishment of technical schools and colleges, especially in Ontario and the Western Provinces, in order to keep pace with Germany and other countries who have already paid great attention to technical education;

" THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Hamilton Board of Trade heartily endorses the action of the Canadian Manufacturers' Association with reference to this matter, and hopes that such a commission may speedily be appointed to report on the most advisable methods for supplying better facilities for the Canadian workmen and manufacturers to obtain the benefits of such technical education."

HAMILTON, ONT., Dec. 4th 1906.

Brantford.

" Be it resolved, that the Dominion Government be requested to appoint a commission to report on the best method for establishing a comprehensive national system of Technical Education to provide Canadian industry and commerce with trained assistants from amongst the Canadian people, and thereby aid in developing Canadian industry, and do away with the present condition of affairs, which compels employers to go abroad for men to occupy the more responsible and more remunerative positions in Canadian enterprises."

BRANTFORD, ONT.

Paris.

" RESOLVED, that this Board endorse the petition of the Canadian Manufacturers' Association to the Dominion Government for the appointment of a commission to re-

port on the best method for establishing a comprehensive national system of technical education throughout Canada."

PARIS, ONT., Nov. 1st, 1906.

London.

"RESOLVED, that this Board is in full sympathy with the action of the Canadian Manufacturers' Association, as set forth in their memorial to the Dominion Government to appoint a commission to investigate and report on the best method for establishing a system of technical education best suited to the country's natural resources and industrial development, and that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Premier."

LONDON, ONT., Oct. 28th, 1906.

Port Arthur.

"THAT WHEREAS the population of the Dominion of Canada is increasing rapidly and the country is enjoying general prosperity ;

"AND WHEREAS these causes have stimulated the industrial development of the Dominion by providing a large and constantly increasing market at home for the products of our factories and workshops ;

"AND WHEREAS it is reported that the demand for skilled help to man the factories is very great and beyond the supply, and that it is necessary to go outside of the Dominion to fill the positions of greater responsibility in them ;

"AND WHEREAS the Board of Trade of the Town of Port Arthur is of the opinion that it is in the best interests of the Dominion that the positions of responsibility in our factories should all be filled by workmen trained in Canada ;

"THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Trade of the Town of Port Arthur respectfully urge the Government of the Dominion of Canada to take such immediate action as may be deemed wise to provide a system of technical education which will train Canadians to keep pace with the industrial development of Canada."

PORT ARTHUR, ONT., Dec. 15th, 1906.

Winnipeg.

"WHEREAS, the Winnipeg Board of Trade in March, 1899, considered and advocated the importance and principle of technical education in Canada ; and

"WHEREAS, a petition is now being presented to the Dominion Government favoring an enquiry as to the best means to be adopted to secure for Canada a national and comprehensive system of technical education;

"RESOLVED, that the Winnipeg Board of Trade cordially support the proposition contained in the resolution passed by the Winnipeg Convention of the Canadian Manufacturers' Association, in September 1906, that the Dominion Government be requested to appoint a commission to report on the best means of establishing a national system of technical education."

WINNIPEG, Nov. 15th, 1906.

Brandon.

"RESOLVED, that the action of the Canadian Manufacturers' Association in appointing a commission looking into the establishment of Technical Schools be hereby endorsed, and that a copy of this resolution be sent to the Canadian Manufacturers' Association and Sir Wilfrid Laurier and all interested parties.

BRANDON, MAN., January 31st, 1907.

Regina.

"RESOLVED, that the Regina Board of Trade cordially endorse the memorial to the Dominion Government for the appointment of a commission to report on the best method for establishing a comprehensive national system of technical education."

REGINA, Nov. 2nd, 1906.

Moose Jaw.

"RESOLVED, that the Council of the Moose Jaw Board of Trade commends the resolution passed by the Canadian Manufacturers' Association re technical education, to the careful consideration of the Government."

MOOSE JAW, SASK., Nov. 14th, 1906.

Prince Albert.

"BE IT RESOLVED, that the Prince Albert Board of Trade declare its hearty sympathy with, and endorsement of the memorial re commission of enquiry on technical Education presented by the 'Canadian Manufacturers' Association to the Dominion Government on May 11th, 1906; and

"BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Board of Trade urge the Dominion Government to take action in the matter as soon as possible after the opening of the approaching session."

PRINCE ALBERT, SASK., Nov. 12, 1906.

Medicine Hat.

"RESOLVED, that this meeting endorse the action of the Canadian Manufacturers' Association, memorializing the Dominion Government, asking for the appointment of a commission to report on the best means of establishing a system of technical education."

MEDICINE HAT, Nov. 1st, 1906.

Calgary.

"BE IT RESOLVED, that the Dominion Government be requested to appoint a commission to report on the best method for establishing a comprehensive national system of technical education to provide Canadian industry and commerce with trained assistants from amongst the Canadian people, and thereby aid in developing Canadian industry, and do away with the present condition of affairs, which compels employers to go abroad for men to occupy the more responsible and more remunerative positions in Canadian enterprises."

CALGARY, ALTA., Oct. 30th, 1906.

Edmonton.

"WHEREAS, There are within the Dominion of Canada, very great natural resources awaiting development; and the opportunities for industrial expansion in the near future, particularly in those more westerly Provinces whose wonderful undeveloped resources are coming to be better understood, are such as have never been equalled in the previous history of this Dominion;

"AND WHEREAS, The chief obstacle to the attainment of Canada's full measure of industrial expansion at the present time appears to be a marked insufficiency in the available supply of trained labor of all classes, and more particularly in the more highly specialized branches from which might be drawn men capable of filling the more responsible positions in large industrial enterprises ;

"AND WHEREAS, The old systems of evolving a supply of skilled labor by the process of long apprenticeship and practical experience in existing industries is not calculated to produce the highest possible efficiency, and is, moreover, inadequate to produce highly trained men at a sufficiently rapid rate to permit Canada to profit to the fullest extent by the opportunities for industrial expansion which are now being presented;

"THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Edmonton Board of Trade would respectfully urge upon the Dominion Government the advisability of taking such steps as may seem necessary to devise a scheme for the establishment of a comprehensive national system of technical education; and that a certain memorial on this subject dated May 11th, 1906, and presented to His Excellency the Governor-General-in-Council, by a Committee of the Canadian Manufacturers Association, be heartily endorsed, and that a copy of this resolution be sent to the Right Honorable Sir Wilfrid Laurier."

EDMONTON, ALTA., Dec. 7th, 1906.

Nelson.

"RESOLVED, That this Board of Trade cordially support the resolution of the Canadian Manufacturers Association, requesting the Government to appoint a commission to report on the best methods for establishing a comprehensive national system of Technical Education, to train Canadians to keep pace with the rapid strides in our industrial development."

NELSON, B.C., Dec. 14th, 1906.

Rossland.

"RESOLVED, that the memorial of the Canadian Manufacturers' Association to the Dominion Government, asking for the appointment of a commission to report on

the best means of establishing a national system of technical education, be heartily endorsed and that the Provincial Government be urged to co-operate in the early establishment of technical schools in British Columbia;

"That copies of this resolution be sent to the Governments of Canada and British Columbia and to the Canadian Manufacturers' Association."

ROSSLAND, B.C., Nov. 5th, 1906.

Vancouver.

"RESOLVED, that the Vancouver Board of Trade, strongly impressed with the great importance of the establishment of a system of technical education throughout the Dominion as an aid and impetus to our manufacturing industries, heartily endorses the memorial on the subject addressed to His Excellency the Governor-General by the Canadian Manufacturers' Association, and trusts that this important matter may receive the immediate attention of the Dominion Government."

VANCOUVER, B.C., Nov 6th, 1906.

Victoria.

"RESOLVED, that in the opinion of this Board it is desirable that a system of technical education should be established throughout Canada with centres in every Province, and that such a system of technical education should receive the financial support of the Dominion Government.

VICTORIA, B.C., November 23rd, 1906.

