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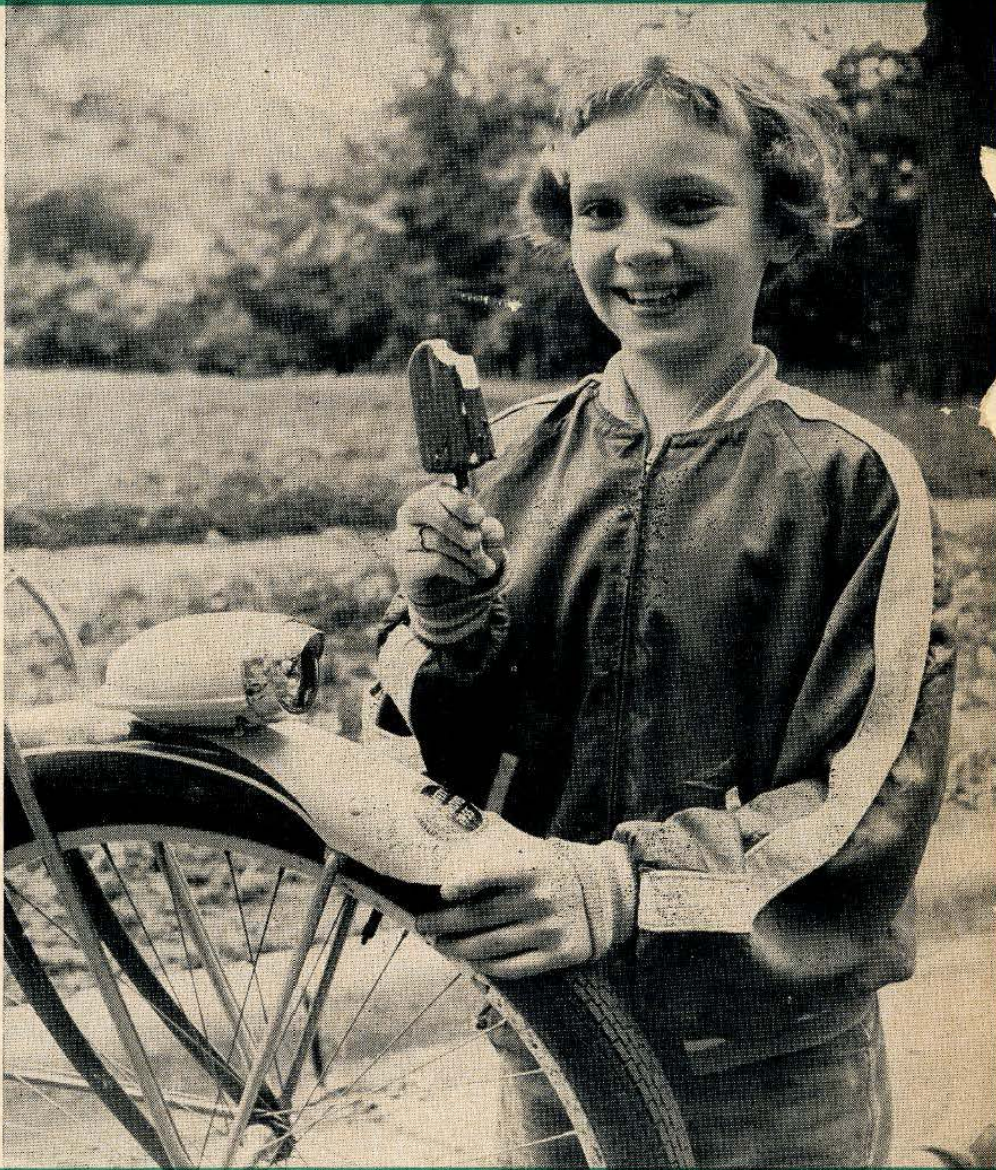
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# **HOME AND SCHOOL**

**ANNUAL**

**CONFERENCE**

**NUMBER**



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**VOL. VIII, No. 4**

**MONTREAL, QUEBEC**

**APRIL, 1956**



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# QUEBEC HOME AND SCHOOL

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April, 1956

A letter from a member,  
who prefers to be  
known as "Spike",  
becomes a guest editorial  
entitled . . .

## I'M GLAD I WENT

FOR TWO years I was a member of the executive of a west-end-of-Montreal Home and School association without having the faintest idea of attending a Federation Conference. For one thing, nobody suggested to me that I might like to attend or even that I had every right as a home-and-schooler to be present. Then, too, as Conference time approached there was a hurried consultation among the vice-presidents to see who was going to "represent" our Association but nobody asked me to be one of the three.

Probably that was what did it!

The third year I was on that executive I made it a point to ask a lot of questions about the Conference throughout the year. I found out a great deal about Federation but more than that when Conference time came around the vice-presidents suddenly recalled all my interest and the result was that I received the appointment as one of the representatives and got a set of credentials.

I took the Friday afternoon off from work and went to the Council of Representatives. I had been coached on the Association's views on the resolutions — told I was to speak to two of them — and instructed how to vote. I did my part and I enjoyed it, particularly when the speaker following me took the opposite view and I was subsequently given the opportunity of rebuttal. Boy, I enjoyed that session!

That evening I met a number of other representatives at the President's Reception — not as many as I would have liked to because

(continued on page 21)

### OUR COVER

Spring may or may not be here when this issue reaches you . . . but one thing is sure . . . bicycles will be out! And many a parent will be worrying about a small girl — or boy, or both — like the one on our cover. Now is the time to further emphasize traffic safety — not just in Association meetings — but in our own homes. Let's make this a truly beautiful bicycle season!



Keep **May 4th & 5th**  
free because  
on these dates

# WE GATHER FOR OUR ANNUAL PROVINCIAL CONFERENCE

in the  
**Physical Sciences Centre**  
of McGill University

FOR THE second year Federation's Annual Conference is being held in the Physical Sciences Centre of McGill University. This fine building is situated directly opposite the High School of Montreal on University Street, above Sherbrooke Street.

## Friendship Unlimited

This is a 'working' Conference but its big opportunity is that of meeting other Home-and-schoolers — and making friends. Officers welcome the chance to learn how others handle their jobs and in the case of chairmen of committees there is the opportunity to meet their corresponding Federation chairmen with whom, in many instances, they already have a telephone or correspondence acquaintance which ripens on this occasion into friendship.

## Business Meetings

Something that is not always understood by the membership at large is that every one — whether a Representative, Delegate or just plain, interested member — is welcome at the business meetings on Friday, May 4th and Saturday afternoon, May 5th. The Council of Representatives — each Association is entitled to send three Representatives — meets on these occasions to receive the President's Report and those of other officers and Standing Committees. The Resolutions are debated and voted on. It is in this connection — voting on any report or issue — that the Representatives have sole rights. The rest of us are just observers at this point.

"Our most successful activity of the year" is the theme of Association Highlights, the opening feature of the Saturday afternoon session when spokesmen for different Associations and Regional Councils report on that subject. This is truly a 'highlight' of the Conference and is eagerly looked forward to by regular Conference attendees.

## The President's Reception

This year's program at the President's Reception, which commences at 8 o'clock on Friday evening, May 4th, will feature a "Fighting Words" type of panel discussion of, "Our Schools' Curriculum" with a past president of Federation, L. Mowbray Clark, as Moderator. The panelists will be two parents and two teachers. It is anticipated that this will be a spirited and entertaining discussion!

There will be other features and then, of course, refreshments when every one has the opportunity of visiting with friends and new acquaintances.

## Workshops Are Fun

Commencing at 9.15 on Saturday morning there will be four workshops with three other, quite different workshops starting at 11 a.m. These are as follows, with the leaders indicated:

At 9.15 a.m. —

School Education — Dr. Harold E. Grant  
Teacher Recruitment — H. L. Land  
Program Planning — Mrs. C. Strauss and  
Mrs. D. J. McIntosh  
Audio-Visual Aids — Mrs. Frances K.  
Mallory

At 11 a.m. —

Parent Education — Mrs. Grace Heard  
Traffic Safety — Ross M. Davidson  
Regional Councils — Robert Calder

In the past the Workshops have proved very popular so that it is suggested you get there early. It is also suggested, as with everything else at the Conference, that you participate and thus get the most out of these sessions.

## The Conference Dinner

The Conference Dinner is always a real 'wind-up' to the Conference. It is being held this year, once again, at the Windsor Hotel



in order that there may not be the disappointment experienced last year when attendance was restricted to around 350 persons and over 50 more wanted tickets. This does not mean that decision regarding tickets can be delayed to the last minute; on the contrary it is necessary as indicated below to get these in good time. However, every one wanting to attend this year will be accommodated and it is hoped there will be a record number.

Federation is honoured that Mrs. Lillian Evans, President of Canadian Federation, is to be the guest speaker. Elsewhere in this issue you will find a short note about Mrs. Evans who is both a wonderful personality and interesting speaker.

The Buzzell Award will be presented at this dinner.

### **Please Register!**

Registration, as indicated above, is open to all Home and School members. You don't have to be an official Representative, nor even an officer of your local Association. Each Association sends three official Representatives but the rest of us are known simply as Delegates. The Conference fee — which includes the Reception and the Dinner — is \$5.00 for each Representative, \$4.00 for each Delegate (meaning you and me or our husband or wife). There is a Registration Form at the

back of this issue which should be completed and given to your Association Secretary with the appropriate fee. In exchange, your Secretary in due course will give you your Dinner and Reception tickets.

When you first enter the Physical Sciences Centre — whether Representative or Delegate — go directly to the Registration desks and identify yourself by name (if a Representative, also present your credentials) and receive your Conference badge. This badge bearing your name and that of your Association, will be made up and awaiting you. There will also be material bearing on the proceedings ready and waiting your attention.

### **How to Enjoy Yourself**

The following is reprinted from last year's preview of the Conference because after the sessions were over a reader told us, "Never a truer word appeared in *Quebec Home and School* than in your advice on how to enjoy the Conference." Here it is!

The one, only and best way of enjoying yourself at the Annual Conference is to enter into everything, whether discussion, debate or just plain, old gab-fest, with gusto and enthusiasm. You'll find an echoing enthusiasm in all those around you.

Enjoy yourself!

## **BE PROUD!**

*Yes, be proud of your affiliation with the fastest growing organization in Canada — your own Canadian Home and School & Parent-Teacher Federation. Wear a pin or lapel button — a neat insignia of the Canadian Federation. Only \$1.00 each. These will be on sale at the Annual Conference or may be secured prior to that by forwarding name, address and \$1.00 to Mrs. B. M. Stark, Corresponding Secretary, 3508 Walkley Avenue, Montreal 28. Please specify whether pin or button is desired.*

## **CANADIAN LEAFLETS**

### **"FOR FREE"**

SOME MORE leaflets you will be glad to hear about are briefly described below. These are all available, without charge, from Canadian sources. Please mention *Quebec Home and School* when you write for any of these helpful pamphlets — it will help your Magazine to become better known.

"**Teachers' Pets**" is a booklet showing how to create unusual designs and drawings. Finished pictures are particularly attractive when mounted and framed. Project is simple and has proved exceptionally interesting to children of all ages. Write **Sargent Colors, Ltd.**, 84 Wellington St. West, Toronto 1, Ont.

"**Are You In the Know?**" is a handy booklet which appeals to a girl's need for

poise and popularity. With true-to-teen-life illustrations it intrigues young readers as it helps solve their dating dilemmas. Write **Educational Dept. Canadian Cellucotton Products Co., Ltd.**, 50 King St. West, Toronto, Ont.

"**Child Training**" is the general title of a series of excellent pamphlets on a variety of subjects in which parents are interested. Just by way of example, here are the titles of four of the leaflets: "Nervous Habits — What causes them in my child?", "Fear — What makes my child afraid and nervous!", "Temper — How can I control my child's outbursts?" and "Lying and Stealing — What make my child dishonest?" Write to **Information Services Division, Dept. of National Health and Welfare**, Ottawa, Ont.



Here, in a few hundred words,  
are the Annual Reports  
of

# FEDERATION'S STANDING COMMITTEES

IT IS always the privilege, as well as the duty, of *Quebec Home and School* to present in its April issue the Annual Reports of the Standing Committees of Federation. Like most reports, these leave unsaid the myriad things nobody has the time to read, much less to write — items, however, which took the precious time of the Committees and particularly of their Chairmen, and which often resulted in more good being achieved than anyone can assess. *Quebec Home and School* on behalf of its readers salutes the hard-working members and chairmen of these Committees!

Federation's Executive and Directors recommend most earnestly that these Reports be read carefully in advance of the Annual Provincial Conference where they will be presented for your consideration.

## AUDIO-VISUAL AIDS COMMITTEE

TELEVISION IS the audio-visual aid which has invaded your homes and in which many of you are therefore most interested. Last year the Audio-Visual Aids Committee announced that we hoped to set up a Watching Subcommittee to report on the quality and content of radio and TV programmes in Quebec. We also said that we hoped to make a survey of the number of hours children spend watching TV and the effect this has on their work and leisure time activities. The organization of the Watching Committee is now under way. The survey is going to take time for in this we appear to be doing pioneer work. We have had help from both Neil Morrison, Director of Audience Research for the CBC, and Sir George Barnes, Director General of BBC Television. The report of the surveys done for the BBC stresses such factors as the control of time allotted to children's programme and supervision of their content. The North American surveys, done mainly in the USA, in contrast reflect a *laissez-faire* attitude. They do not concern themselves with when

children should watch, or whether their programmes can or should be controlled. These surveys are quantitative and different surveys contradict one another on almost every point. The one useful survey we have found so far was done by the McGill Department of Sociology under the direction of Professor Frederick Elkin. Both Professor Elkin and Mr. Morrison have offered to help us in planning a questionnaire which would be primarily qualitative rather than quantitative.

## TV IN SCHOOLS

While parents are feeling their way with TV at home television is also still at the experimental stage in the schools. As you know, the CBC intends to do a second and more comprehensive pilot experiment in TV programmes for schools in April. Since last time they had little information concerning parents' reaction to the schools programmes, they are this time asking for cooperation from Home and School. By the time this magazine is in print our Committee should have the necessary questionnaires.

## FILMS

However much our interest and concern in television, the audio-visual aid which the schools, in Montreal at least, find most useful is film. This was made clear in the Home and School Broadcast of January 22nd, in which Mr. Pope of the Greater Montreal Protestant School Board took part. We had intended that this discussion should be mainly about TV in the school, but it turned out to be mainly about films, for they now play a much larger part in teaching in the schools.

## DISPLAY AT ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Because of the importance of films, and their availability and wide use in the schools, we have decided that our Workshop and Display at the Annual Conference this year will be concerned with films. We hope to illustrate the technique of using films in relation to other



audio-visual aids such as the tape-recorder and museum exhibits, and perhaps even books.

#### BOOKS ARE AN AUDIO-VISUAL AID

Books are still the most important audio-visual aid in education, and we are delighted that this year the *Saturday Review* (February 18, 1956) has included books under audio-visual aids in its annual review of teaching tools. We cannot take for granted the quality of any of the audio-visual aids. Nor can we forget that aids are not a substitute for good teachers, on whom the main burden of teaching still rests.

FRANCES K. MALLORY  
Chairman

#### BROADCASTS COMMITTEE

YOUR BROADCASTS Committee is among the least known, and best known, groups within Federation — depending on your point of view. As a Committee, it meets four or more times annually, with the specific, well-defined purpose of drawing up balanced schedules of programming, for intervals of several months, and assigning responsibilities. Charged as it is with the task of bringing to the microphones timely broadcasts of interest to Home and Schooler and casual listener on themes pertaining to functions of Federation and to the broad picture of education in Quebec, its work very much is in the spotlight, especially to the extent that it tends to represent Federation before a large public.

"Home and School on the Air" now is close to completing its ninth broadcasting year. The works of your Broadcasts Committee has been, to a major extent, "an open book" to those who follow our weekly series on three stations, blanketing most of Quebec. It is sufficient to record here that a healthy balance is felt to have been maintained between broadcasts "on" Home and School and those "by" Home and School, offering insight into specific and general questions on modern education. Credit for that degree of success with which our broadcasting has met goes with thanks to that compact group of well-informed Federation workers who "man" our Committee and to technical and programming staffs of "our" three stations. But, in the final analysis, we retain our present position by virtue of continued loyalty of thousands of listeners, within and beyond our membership, who maintain our "ratings" and thereby convince commercial radio and us that Home and School has a place "on the air".

H. DON ALLEN  
Chairman

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with Canadians  
in every walk  
of life since  
1817 . . .



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#### PARENT EDUCATION COMMITTEE

ONCE MORE the time for reporting and evaluating our work has come — it seems the period between annual conferences is shorter every year! Now consisting of 11 members, your Committee as always is directing its work toward the bettering of family relationships.

Mrs. G. B. Clarke, Executive Secretary, has done a magnificent job juggling 20 active leaders so that they have carried 29 discussion groups, and led discussions at 56 Home and School meetings, using plays 21 times, films 24 times, and other means such as panels or talks 11 times. Through the groups 426 parents having 1,042 children have been reached.

The most frequently used plays were, "And You Never Know" and "Random Target"; the films most requested were, "Sociable Sixes to Noisy Nines", "Roots of Happiness" and "Meeting the Emotional Needs of Children".

Our promotion was carried on as heretofore through a convenors' meeting in September, through the group work itself, and at the large Home and School meetings. Mrs. Clarke has handled all these varied activities, in the process making about 600 telephone calls, writing some 45 letters, sending out about 30 packets of plays and explanatory



pamphlets and discussion material. In addition to this she mailed out our promotional letter to the president of every Home and School Association in the Province!

This year we have supplied discussion leaders for single meetings in Ayrescliffe, Bedford, Chateauguy, Granby, Lennoxville, Morin Heights and St. Eustache. We would so much like to do more off-Island work if only we had leaders free to spend the necessary time away from their own homes.

Mrs. R. O. Calder reports an increase in the number of pre-school study groups from none to 12 in 3 years' time. Here promotion work showed excellent results. One of these groups is being used as a year-long study project, in an attempt to evaluate the effect of the study group experience on parental attitudes. In addition to this, Mrs. Calder is now assistant to Mrs. E. W. Crowe, supervising the training of our leaders at the Mental Health Institute. In this connection we would like to express our continuing gratitude to Dr. Baruch Silverman for his most effective help and untiring support in our work.

Mrs. C. E. Woolgar, Leadership Workshop Chairman, has held monthly sessions from which we all derive a great deal of inspiration and practical assistance. Here we learn of techniques used in other centres where Parent Education is carried on—and here, too, we talk over our own problems in group leadership.

Mrs. A. A. Gardner is in charge of our Leaders' Bookshelf and is most anxious that all leaders use the resource books and pamphlets freely.

Mrs. Peter Kerrigan, treasurer, reports continued interest in "Parents' Magazine" at our \$1.50 special rate. She handles the \$1.00 fee paid by every study group member to defray the expenses incurred by the Committee in carrying out the many activities connected with its work. In co-operation with Mrs. Gardner, Mrs. Kerrigan keeps us in touch with the latest developments in child-parent studies by subscribing for us to such publications as "Child Study".

Mrs. H. R. C. Avison, our liaison officer with the Adult Education Service of Macdonald College, reported that 135 pamphlets were purchased by Conference members last year. Mrs. Avison made this exhibit a most useful one to all the delegates and we cannot thank her enough for all her work.

In addition to the members listed I should like to thank also Mrs. Richard Callan, publicity, Mrs. H. J. Stokes, recording secretary, Mrs. Berus and Mrs. Walsh, members at large.

This may seem a large committee, but we all keep busy and I am grateful to every member for kind support.

Committee members attended the National Council of Family Relations, August, 1955, in Minneapolis; Workshop on Parent Education Leadership Training, February, 1956, in Lansing.

During Easter Week of 1956 we were represented at the Annual Conference of the Child Study Association of America and the annual Institute for Workers in Parent Education, New York City.

In conclusion, may I say that your Parent Education Committee feels increasing need exists for the kind of work we are doing. Beset on all sides by differing experts and harshest critics, today's parents need to be warmly seconded as they carry on the most important task in the world. Here in our small corner we are doing our humble best to supply at least some such support.

GRACE HEARD  
Chairman

#### PROGRAM PLANNING COMMITTEE

THE CHIEF function of the Program Planning Committee during the past year has consisted of the giving of assistance in the way of advice, or materials, whenever these were asked for by individual associations. Requests were handled by mail in the rural areas and by telephone in the Montreal area.

The Committee hopes to have a second edition of the Proven Programs booklet ready for the May Conference. Questionnaires have been sent to each Federation association,



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asking for an account of its most successful program. By compiling the information received in this way, it is hoped to produce a booklet which will give program planners a definite idea of what programs have met with success in associations similar to their own. It will serve as a useful adjunct to the Program Planning Manual, which was revised in 1955, and which lists possible speakers and types of programs.

There will be a display of work done along program planning lines at the Annual Conference, and the Proven Program Booklet will be distributed. The Workshop at the Conference will provide an opportunity for Program Planning Convenors to meet and share experiences and ideas.

Co-Chairmen  
C. STRAUSS  
D. J. McINTOSH

### RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE

A HOME and School member reading this heading for the first time might wonder what such a committee does and why. To those people this paragraph is addressed. Home and School associations at various times have undertaken many different types of projects to enrich the recreation hours of the children and adults of their group. Ballet classes, art projects, hobby groups and other such functions are the outgrowths of such projects. The Recreational Activities Committee has been set up to gather information from associations that have made such attempts. The information the Committee then has is available to any association that wishes help in setting up a similar activity. In order to accumulate a file of information to work from, the Committee sends out requests to all associations to send in a list of their projects and the people responsible.

A disturbing lack of response prompted the Committee to try a different approach this year. Questionnaires were sent out in March in hopes that the successes or failures of this past year would inspire associations to share their experiences. It was also thought that, with the questionnaires going out at this time of year, personal follow-ups could be made at Conference time.

A sub-committee chairman, Mrs. S. Portnuff, in charge of ballet groups has been added this year. Ballet groups have become such a successful "recreational activity" that they deserve a sub-heading of their own.

It is too soon to evaluate our new approach to the questionnaires, but not too late for each association to make sure that its reply has been sent in!

Mrs. H. R. SCOTT  
Chairman



## TWO VIEWS OF THE FUTURE

For the youngsters, the future is the next game of cowboys or "playing house." For you, it is the efforts and worries of providing them with a good start in "grown-up" life. Here the Sun Life Assurance Company of Canada can help you. A Sun Life Educational Fund policy, designed to meet your needs, will give your children that all-important essential for their success — a proper education. Ask your nearest Sun Life agent for full details.

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HEAD OFFICE — MONTREAL



## SCHOOL EDUCATION COMMITTEE

THE SCHOOL Education Committee was set up a few years ago to study certain aspects of the Education program relating, particularly, to the actual school situation. Among the topics studied were:

1. Co-Education.
2. Parent — Teacher Conferences.
3. Home and School Study Groups.
4. School Discipline.
5. Corporal Punishment.
6. Homework.
7. Guidance — Educational and Vocational.
8. Special Child Needs.

The School Education Committee has offered, from time to time, to send speakers to local associations to deal with the above or other subjects. It has and would like to act as a kind of clearing house for certain matters of current interest.

Last spring an extensive study was conducted on Corporal Punishment as it applied to the Montreal district. A report was given of the findings of the Committee at the May Conference. A copy of this report could be made available to any local association.

During the past winter the Committee has been studying Curriculum — more particularly the course in elementary school in grade VII Arithmetic. The Committee would like to recommend a more difficult entrance mathematics standard than is now used in the promotion of pupils to high school. This report will be available at the Spring Conference.

During the Spring Conference the School Education Committee will be conducting a workshop on the Saturday morning of the conference. Plans are now being formulated on some features of this workshop. Suggestions, however, from local associations on what they would like would be appreciated if received early.

The Education Committee would recommend to all Home and School Associations the setting up of "Study Groups."

Such groups would consist of a few people — usually not more than ten — who would work behind the scenes and could contribute much to any local association. There are now so many matters of interest in Education that cannot be covered adequately in any of the regular monthly meetings, that small groups could study and report findings to the full association. For example, here are some topics worthy of study:

- (a) How can parents keep abreast of and supervise home assignments of pupils?
- (b) How may handwriting be improved generally? It is a recognized fact that few pupils on graduation from high

school write legibly. What is the cause? What is the remedy?

- (c) What are some methods that could be employed to induce more parents to attend the regular monthly meetings? Should contests be held? Should more parents participate each month? Could there be a program one month arranged by the Grade VII parents, the next month by another grade, etc.? A prize at the end of the year going to the grade in the school having the best monthly program?
- (d) Would it be an advantage for all parents to know something about the mental ability of their children? Should the results of intelligence tests be made known to parents?
- (e) Would it be interesting for parents to study the per capita costs of education in the various sections of the city? How much is devoted to building programs? How is the budget of the School Board determined? How much is spent on salaries, administration upkeep etc.? Is the per capita cost of education in your school \$150. per pupil or is it some other figure? Is the cost of educating the pupils in another adjoining school \$300. per pupil and, if so, why?
- (f) Why is the present method of teaching reading better than the old-fashioned method?

The Sub-Committee on "Special Child Needs" has done extensive work. Under the direction of Mrs. E. R. McLeish, help and suggestions as to how to deal with children of foreign extraction, unable to speak English, are available. In addition this Sub-Committee has dealt with handicapped children (with hearing, speech or sight defects) and with special methods of meeting their needs. Mrs. McLeish is Adjustment Teacher at Southern School.

A report appeared in a recent issue of the *Quebec Home and School Magazine* on Homework as studied by a committee under the Greater Montreal School Board. The School Education Committee has studied certain plans as to how the suggestions embodied in the report could be implemented.

A report has also appeared in the Magazine relative to the Sub-Committee — Parent Teacher Conferences by Dr. E. C. Powell who has been active in promoting the introduction of such conferences in the schools under the suggested plan. Very satisfactory results have been obtained in schools where this was tried.

The School Education Committee is ready to send speakers and show appropriate films to any schools or associations where Guidance is not an integral part of the system. The



Guidance Sub-Committee could assist in explaining how a program could be set up in a full or modified form and supply much useful information on the benefits derived from such a program.

Dr. H. E. GRANT  
Chairman

### SCHOOL FINANCE COMMITTEE

THE COMMITTEE considers that the following matters which were reported in the Press during the year are of general interest to the membersip:—

1. The announcement that the Provincial Government would take over a part of the indebtedness of local boards in communities with a population of over 150,000. The amount involved is reported to be about 60 million dollars. A similar step was taken in 1946 at which time 100 million dollars of debts were taken over of which 70 million were in the cities of Montreal and Quebec.
2. Increases in the salaries of teachers of the Greater Montreal Central Protestant Board ranging from \$50 to \$400 per annum. The men teachers claimed that these were insufficient and suspended extra-curricular activities in protest. The women teachers objected to the differentials between the pay of the two sexes being increased.
3. Following an increase of 36% in the valuation roll of the City of Montreal the Central Board applied for authority to base taxes in other areas under its jurisdiction on 150% of assessed values. This illustrates a problem which has resulted in equalization of assessments on a provincial basis in some other Provinces. The Board reduced its tax rate from \$1.50 to \$1.20 per hundred so that taxes in Montreal will be about 8% higher on the average. The Catholic School Commission whose rate was set at \$1.00 per hundred by law, had its rate reduced to 80¢ by action of the Provincial legislature.

The Committee has had an opportunity to study two recent reports on educational matters. The first of these was the report on School Finance in Canada published by the School Finance Research Committee of the Canadian School Trustees Association of which Dr. M. E. LaZerte is Research Director. This was a work of great magnitude covering all aspects of the question and received wide publicity. The recommendations of this report are as follows:—

- (1) That all pupils be encouraged to continue their Education as far as possible through

(continued on page 14)

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## **THE IMPORTANCE OF PROMPT AND ADEQUATE**

### **TREATMENT FOR MINOR WOUNDS**

*Dr. Jones is Chairman of  
Federation's Health Committee*

WHEN THE skin is cut, punctured or burned the stage is set for the possible entry of infection into the wound. The most dangerous time in this respect is when the injury occurs and shortly after while the cut surfaces are still fresh.

The need for early and proper care is apparent. To neglect either of these points increases the chances of contracting infections, some of which might have serious consequences.

The size of the wound does not necessarily have any relation to the possibility of infection. Men have died as the result of germs which entered the body at the time of a tiny puncture wound yet others have survived horrible wounds in battle.

Whether an infection sets in after the skin is broken depends on several conditions. There is a delicate balance between the resistance of the injured person to infection and the type of virulence of invading germs. If the person is resistant no infection occurs but if he is not or if certain really dangerous organisms enter the wound, complications result.

These conditions cannot always be controlled but what we can do is to supply early

and adequate treatment to all wounds however small. A deep puncture wound, as from a nail, or a deep wound incurred while on a street, require anti-tetanus injections.

A burn is similar to a large wound in many ways but differs from it insofar as it always is perfectly sterile until a source of infection is added. The actual burning process sterilizes the tissues. On the other hand a wound may be infected by the injury-producing instrument or by bits of clothing or other matter forced in at the time of the accident.

Many infections in burns result when some bystander, eager to help, applies some ointment with dirty hands or attempts to remove contaminated clothing by dragging it over the burned surface. Immediate first aid should consist of applying a clean dry towel or cloth in the absence of a sterile dressing and of course the arranging for further treatment as soon as possible.

The important thing to remember is that any break in the skin surface is a possible point of entry for infecting germs. The longer you wait and the less skilled the treatment, the greater are the chances of complications. Get a good booklet on First Aid and study it carefully. ●

#### **IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT**

*EDITING IS a lonely business unless a publication's readers occasionally feel — and obey! — the urge to express themselves about an article or the general contents through the medium of letters to the editor. We receive perhaps an average of one letter per month, yet we have 9,000 subscribers and probably close to 20,000 readers!*

*Perhaps because of the nature of this magazine readers have been too considerate to write in their "beefs" about it, too shy to express any compliments they may kindly feel it deserves. Possibly an invitation is needed.*

*If readers will co-operate we promise to institute a column or page to be headed, IT SEEMS TO ME . . . with the next issue. This will be devoted to readers' reactions to our articles and to their views on any subject properly a matter of concern to home-and-schoolers. All letters must be signed and contain the home address of the writer. We will use the writer's name unless otherwise requested and, of course, we must reserve the privilege of condensing any letter to meet space requirements. Please address letters to:*

*Alex. R. Hasley, 4632 Oxford Avenue, Montreal 28, P.Q.*



## POINTE CLAIRE DEBATED

### MODERN TEACHING METHODS

MODERN METHODS of teaching reading came in for critical examination at the monthly meeting of the Pointe Claire Home & School Association, February 8th. In a debate sponsored by the Association, arguments were vigorous and voices raised as the opponents of the present system advocated a change.

The subject of the debate was "Resolved that there is an urgent need for a fundamental change in the method of teaching reading in our schools." The affirmative was taken by Mrs. G. C. Swan, mother of four children and a past president of the McGill Women's Debating Union and C. R. Asher, father of two school-age children. They were opposed by Judge Lindsay R. Place, Chairman of the Protestant School Board for Beaconsfield and Pointe Claire, and W. B. Fleming, Principal of the Cedar Park School.

The keen interest in the subject was shown by the capacity audience which included visitors from other Lakeshore communities and from the Catholic School Commission. No winner was declared as the purpose of the debate was to air the controversy and present facts and arguments on both sides. This it succeeded in doing.

Many of the strong arguments against the current word-recognition system of teaching reading were reduced by the proof that the Protestant School Board system is not based wholly on word recognition but takes only the best points out of that programme and supplements it by the teaching of phonetics to a considerable degree. The current system was described clearly and fully by Mr. Fleming and the audience was surprised to learn that many of the objections raised by Dr. Rudolph Flesch in his book "Why Johnnie Can't Read" were recognized by the Board some years ago and do not exist in the present system.

Three main objections to the present system were raised by the parents who contended that

- 1) it leans too heavily on the memory "crutch" and does not provide the tools and the skills in using them which are essential to education,
- 2) it is designed to produce high speed so-called superefficient readers without recognition of the need for varying speeds and kinds of reading for different types of reading material,
- 3) it fails to develop good spellers.



# EXPORT

CANADA'S *Finest* CIGARETTE

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While no decisions were reached, there seemed to be general agreement that the present system is probably better than anything that has gone before but that there is room for further improvement. Despite the heat of debate, it was obvious that the parents have confidence in the school authorities and wish to keep their criticism on a constructive basis so that the home and school may work together in a continuing quest for better teaching methods.

The chairman of the meeting was Mr. Norman V. Waldron who was introduced by the Association's president, Malcolm A. Turner. Credit was given to the programme chairman, Mr. George VanKoughnett, who has done an outstanding job in arranging meetings which have not only drawn large crowds of parents but have sent them home satisfied that they have profited greatly from the evening.

**C. R. ASHER**

### COMMITTEE REPORTS . . . contd.

Elementary and Secondary school grades and that, wherever possible, schools provide remedial instruction to prevent pupil maladjustment resulting from irregular attendance, large enrolments and other causes.

- (2) That individual class enrolments be limited to numbers that make possible effective teaching and supervision.
- (3) That the minimum standard of certification for Teachers be two years of teacher education beyond Senior Matriculation and that no person be given a professional certificate unless and until he attains this standard.
- (4) That larger school units be the basis for school administration.
- (5) That all real property on which taxes are paid or should be levied for the support of schools be carefully and equitably assessed.
- (6) That a foundation programme defined in terms of 'Per Weighted Pupil' or 'Per Weighted Classroom' costs be introduced by each Province.
- (7) That the numerous grants now available to schools be replaced by one basic equalization grant which, added to the revenue from a uniform tax rate applied

to the equalized Assessment of a District, is sufficient to finance operation of the basic foundation programme.

- (8) That Provincial Governments increase their grants for capital expenditures.
- (9) That the Federal Government assist each Province in raising the level of its foundation programme to an acceptable Canadian Standard.
- (10) That to assist in financing Elementary and Secondary Education the Federal Government be requested to give aid to the extent of \$150 million per annum at the present time, one-third of this aid to be on a 'Per Pupil' basis and two-thirds as Equalization Grants to Provinces with low tax-paying ability, the latter payments to be proportional to Provincial needs.

The second report was that of the Royal Commission on the Financing of Schools in New Brunswick. The Commission recommended that the programme of education be based on a per capita cost (exclusive of debt changes) of not less than \$110 per elementary pupil and \$150 per high school pupil this minimum cost to be divided equally between the municipality and the province. In addition the province would pay 25% of costs excluding the minimum up to a ceiling cost of \$160 and \$200 for elementary and high-school



**"Hello...Coke!"**





pupils respectively. Each administrative unit would be required to expend at least 65% of its budget, after debt service charges, for instructional purposes. It was also recommended that there be throughout the province a uniform rate of taxation applied to equalized assessments. The Commission further recommended that the Federal Government participate directly or indirectly in the financial support of the public schools of New Brunswick on a basis of fiscal need, but only in such manner that the Provincial Government would retain full control over the educational system.

In 1954 the School Finance Committee recommended "that the Quebec Association of Protestant School Boards be requested to consider the preparation of a standard form of annual statements (financial and statistical) so that working with the Department of Education, an informative annual compilation of such data could be available to responsible bodies endeavouring to fully understand our Provincial school financial problems and methods." Discussions with officers of the Association have taken place to this end.

All School Commissions and Boards are required to forward to the Department each year two reports. The first is a statistical report showing the number of schools, the enrolment and the census of children (both of these by age and sex), and the average attendance. The form also includes a roll of the teachers

employed, and a list of the text books used. The second is a financial report showing the basis of imposition of school taxes and of monthly fees; a summary of debenture debt by rate of interest; a statement of revenue and expenditure; a statement of receipts and disbursements, and a statement of assets and liabilities divided into (a) Capital and Loan Fund and (b) Revenue Fund. The Provincial Bureau of Statistics, which is under the Minister of Trade and Commerce publishes a compilation of the financial reports.

While those who are familiar with the preparation of these returns could no doubt suggest amendments to improve them, they are standardized and do show the operations of each board in considerable detail. The compilations made would however be of much greater value if they included some of the statistical data re attendance and census, and if they could be published earlier than they are. The Committee is working with the Association of Protestant School Boards to this end and is also preparing for discussion with the Association a summary of the reports for 1951-52, the last year for which a compilation is available. It is hoped to circulate copies of this summary at the Annual Meeting.

The Executive has referred to the Committee for study a resolution presented at the Annual Meeting in 1955 on the following terms:—

Whereas an important part of school

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finances is now being raised from non-property-owners by means of the sales tax on purchases, and

Whereas non-property-owners have no vote and are unable to act as school board members;

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that Quebec Federation petition the Provincial Government to enact legislation permitting non-property-owners to vote for school board members and be eligible for election to school board membership.

A resolution along the same lines was presented in 1954.

The arguments in favour of the proposal were concisely stated, with some qualification, in the report of the School Finance Committee in 1954, in the following terms:—

The real estate tax places tenants in an anomalous position. Directly, they pay no real estate tax, and, because of this, have been given no responsibility or opportunity to vote or serve in School Board office. It is felt this is regrettable because a portion, or, in many cases, all of the taxes (both municipal and school taxes) are passed on to and paid by the tenant through rental charges. Your Committee feels that the school system deserves and requires the interest and talents of all residents of the school area whether they be home owners or tenants and particularly if they have children in school. Naturally they should bear an equitable share of school costs, but it is felt that an anomaly now exists as between the direct tax burden on the tenant and the absence of his proper democratic responsibilities of supporting the school system and contributing his talents to the wisdom of its management.

Since School Board membership is limited to property owners, these anomalies are further increased in communities where the immovable property wealth is largely held by the aging portion of the population. Your Committee feels that School Board

membership should be representative of all segments of the population having an interest in education. The fact that an increasing proportion of school revenues is being raised by means other than the real estate tax stresses the anomaly since most of the other modes of taxing apply generally over the public at large (e.g. sales tax or income tax). So long as the real estate tax continues to produce a major portion of school revenues, your Committee recognizes the value of property owner representation on School Boards, but not to the complete exclusion of non-property owners. One further effect of the property requirement for board membership is to reduce the opportunity for such public service by the women of the Province.

On the contrary side it must be recognized that the rate of tax on property owners is not generally limited and in fact school trustees are required to levy the taxes necessary for the support of the schools under their control. The amounts of the monthly fees which they may collect are, however, fixed by the Quebec Education Act as regards the grades in which attendance is compulsory. As regards sales tax, this is not levied by the trustees and can only be levied in any area by special act of the Quebec legislature, which normally follows a request by the Protestant and Catholic boards together with the local municipal authorities.

In these circumstances, the position of the property owners may be readily understood if they are unsympathetic to a proposal, unless surrounded by adequate safeguards that their taxes be set and that expenditures be under the control of persons who may be, or who may be elected by, non-property owners. Moreover, in so far as the proposal is based on the argument that there is taxation without representation, it fails because the sales tax is imposed by act of the legislature which is elected by universal adult franchise.

The Committee believe that the proposal



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is one on which the membership would be sharply divided, as is evidenced by the discussion at the last two Annual Meetings. Furthermore, it is of the opinion that a petition, if made at the present time, would not lead to any action. The Committee, therefore, recommended to the Executive that the Federation would be well advised to take no side on the question but to bear in mind for presentation at some suitable opportunity the suggestion that non-property-owners be given an opportunity for more active participation in school management.

C. E. JACK  
Chairman.

#### TEACHER RECRUITMENT COMMITTEE

THIS COMMITTEE was formed under the guidance of Norman Wood, vice-president of Quebec Federation. Beside the chairman, its membership comprises T. M. Lawrence, director of Quebec Federation, and Mrs. L. A. Macey, Montreal teacher. Valuable advice has been given by R. S. Pibus, vice-chairman of the Teacher Recruitment Committee of the P.A.P.T.

The committee has given special attention to publications issued by the Canadian Teachers' Federation, the National Education Association, and the Fund for the Advancement of Education. All these reports stress a high standards approach to the solution of teacher shortage, which implies a long range programme.

With this in mind, the committee has also studied reports of teacher aide experiments in Michigan, California and Connecticut. Although it is too early to assess the reaction in our province to the idea of teacher aides, it was noted with interest that one result of the experiment in Bay City, Michigan, was that many of the aides, after experience in the classroom, resolved to enter the teaching profession.

It was the privilege of your chairman to work with Stuart Richardson, chairman of the Province of Quebec Education Week Committee, in the compiling of a full page advertisement which appeared in the March 3rd issue of the Montreal Gazette. Sponsored by the T. Eaton Company, this page was to have featured teacher recruitment. Mr. Richardson had evolved a very creditable presentation of the ideals, aims and advantages of the teaching profession. Unfortunately this theme lost its timeliness in the wake of the February contretemps of the Montreal teachers' salary question; the text was therefore directed to the improvement of liaison between home and school.

(continued on page 19)

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INFORMATION FROM THE REGISTRAR

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# Rough Notes

by Al. Rough

Please send your notes to the Editor — and please sign your name to them

**Passing Information:** Elsewhere there is mention of some Canadian Government leaflets . . . Our thanks to **David Nathans**, Publicity Chairman for **Bancroft H & S.A.**, who told us about them . . . Mr. Nathans distributes these leaflets at the regular monthly meetings — an excellent idea . . . **The City of Kassel**, West Germany, is completing three years of a six-year water **fluoridation** experiment because tooth decay is a major West Germany health problem due to wartime and postwar diet deficiencies . . . Hope Montreal doesn't have to wait such a situation to come about before action is taken on the oft-recommended action.

**We Get Around:** Three articles from this Magazine have been reprinted in other magazines this year — or at any rate three that we have seen . . . "**So They Want You On the Executive**", an article from last year has been reprinted in abbreviated form as a leaflet by a friendly Montreal firm and so has, "**This I Was Glad To Learn**", now a handout sheet made available by another friendly company which also happens to be one of our best advertising supporters . . . We have also been quoted extensively . . . For all of which we are genuinely and humbly grateful.

**Associations Are Doing Dept.:** Did you notice in the last issue that fine gesture by **Lachine H & S.A.**? . . . It was an ad "with the compliments of the 450 members" . . . We sure did appreciate it! . . . Wonder if we could run an "honour roll" of Associations who contribute to the financial success of *Quebec Home and School*? Any Associations care to get on the first listing? . . . **Central Park H & S.A.** of Lachine boasts its largest membership this year, thanks to **Mrs. C. W. Darling**, Membership Convenor, and her hard-working committee . . . Incidentally, Central Park has 100% subscription list to our Magazine. . . . There's another "honours list" we plan publishing in our June issue!

**Personalities:** **Dr. S. R. Laycock**, a past president of Canadian Federation and noted educator, writes us that he has a new book coming out this summer entitled, "**Brief Chats With Parents**" . . . Very wisely, Copp Clark is publishing it in paper covers to sell in the neighborhood of \$2 . . . Here's wishing Dr. Laycock (who, by the way, was last year's Conference Dinner speaker) great success with this latest work! . . . **President Douglas Walkington** was pictured in his company's house organ recently as one of its Speakers' Bureau . . . At press time he was on a Western Canada tour involving an average of 3 talks per day — some grind. . . . This stiff program despite his having had trouble all winter with his throat . . . Many of the fine pictures we have been privileged to publish this year have been furnished by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics through the wonderfully kind co-operation of **Miss Margaret Pink**, Assistant Editor of "**The Canada Year Book**" — a publication, by the way, every home should own . . . It's only 75¢ at any bookstore, or directly from the Queen's Printer, Ottawa. ●



## CONFERENCE DINNER SPEAKER

*Lillian Evans, President of the Canadian Federation of Home and School & Parent-Teacher Associations, is to be the guest speaker at the Annual Conference dinner on May 5th. Mrs. Evans, whose home is in Victoria, B.C., has travelled throughout Canada in her two years as President but this is her first visit to the Quebec Federation. She will bring us an interesting, composite picture of "home and school" at work throughout the country.*



## COMMITTEE REPORTS . . . contd.

Your committee was represented at a dinner meeting arranged for March 8th by R. J. Perry, vice-president of the Q.A.P.S.B., for the purpose of bringing together organizations vitally interested in the problem of teacher shortage.

A workshop on teacher recruitment has been planned at the Annual Conference on May 5th. This will include a film "Appointment with Youth" and a commentary by a member of the staff of Macdonald College.

H. L. LAND  
Chairman

## CENTRAL PARK LACHINE IS PACKING THEM IN

NEW STAGE curtains were formally opened for the first time on Tuesday, February 9th, at the Central Park School in Lachine. The occasion was the presentation by the Association of the one-act play by Nora Stirling entitled, "And You Never Know". Mrs. Norman McMillan, President of our Association, presented the drapes to the School and mentioned at the time that they were purchased with the proceeds from the successful Military Whist held in January.

Rudy Weinmeister, Program Convenor, and director of the play, did a perfect casting job in his choice of Mrs. Claire Ambrose as Eleanor Hollis and Stephen Borosink as Tom Hollis, her carefree husband. Our Kindergarten Director, Miss Heather Johnston played the part of Margaret, their teen-age daughter, with great realism. In fact, everyone connected with this production did such a bang-up job and had so much fun that a similar play will definitely be an annual event to be looked forward to with great anticipation. We are very grateful to Mrs. Alan Gordon, President of the Kensington H & S.A. for leading a most interesting discussion period at the conclusion of the play.

Our next meeting will have come and gone by the time this report is published but at the moment of writing we are eagerly awaiting the visit of Herb Capossi, Program Director of CBC-TV who is to be our guest speaker on March 16th. On April 10th in addition to our regular general meeting, Mr. Ash, our Physical Education Director, has promised us a short gym demonstration. For evenings such as these we won't need to worry about attendance — we only hope we have sufficient seating space for all.

Mrs. R. S. McINTYRE

## COURTLAND PARK DISCUSSES SEX EDUCATION

THE JANUARY monthly meeting of the Courtland Park H & S.A. was attended by close to 250 members. The speaker, Dr. John Charters, M.D., C.M., well known pediatrician of this community, was introduced by Frank Oddie following a short business session which was presided over by H. W. Coulter, 1st Vice-President, in the absence of the President, L. G. Jordan, who was ill.

Beginning his subject, "What Should We Teach Our Children About Sex?", Dr. Charters stated that we as parents have come a long way in the past fifty years as discussions of this nature were unheard of until recently. He went on to say that matters pertaining to sex education should be treated by parents in the same easy manner as other things important to the child's growth. He believes children come from three types of homes, "The Negative Home where parents consider the subject as unclean. The Ethereal Home where the subject of sex is completely ignored. And the Enlightened Home where parents answer their children's questions truthfully whenever the need arises, thus giving their children a sound basis for a happier adult life." He then discussed the different age groups and some of the problems parents can expect. He stressed the importance of always being truthful and the need to give simple rather than elaborate answers.

In closing Dr. Charters invited questions after the film, "The Human Growth" was shown as an example of the type of film being shown to Grades 6 and 7 in some of the Montreal schools. Mrs. Eileen Maxham, on behalf of the members of the Association, thanked Dr. Charters on the excellence of his instructive address. Refreshments were served by the mothers of Grade 3 pupils with Mrs. Chalmers as hostess.

Mrs. HAZEL GRAHAM

## de BELLE & WHITE

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CANADIAN HOME and School & Parent-Teacher Federation is the largest voluntary organization in Canada. Since December, 1954, our organization has been housed in a permanent home of our own. You and I are Canadian Federation — every member of a local Association is automatically a member in this national organization. We are justifiably proud to be affiliated.

Mrs. Isobel Shuster, Chairman of Quebec Federation's "Quarters For Headquarters" Campaign, in an interim report last month stated:

"Last year each Association in the Quebec Federation was asked to contribute 25¢ per member to the Headquarters Fund. In spite of the generous co-operation of most of our Associations, the drive is lagging: we are \$600 in the red. Several of the larger Montreal Associations have not yet completed their pledges — and some Associations have not contributed at all."

It is earnestly suggested that the membership at large enquire of its Association officers to see if their local Association has done its share. Make sure your Association is fully paid up!

Only one other Provincial Federation has exceeded its quota. Mrs. Shuster, the Officers and Directors of Quebec Federation would very much like to see that Quebec is the second to do so.

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## DOCTOR ASKS SEX CLASSES FOR SCHOOLS

REPORTING ON a hearing of the Royal Commission on the Criminal Law Relating to Criminal Sexual Psychopaths held in Montreal recently, *The Gazette* used the above headline. The following is that newspaper's account, in part, of Dr. D. Ewen Cameron's appearance before the Commission. Dr. Cameron is professor of psychiatry at McGill University.

"In Montreal, Dr. Cameron said, there was no clear-cut program of sex education in schools.

"The last time we tried to get some action,' he said, 'we were told it might embarrass young teachers. That is a lamentable state of affairs in the mid-century.'

"Dr. Cameron, who is director of the Allan Memorial Institute of Psychiatry of Royal Victoria Hospital, suggested that when a criminal sexual psychopath had been found by the courts to have committed a definite act he should be referred to a psychiatric centre for a report on his ability to control himself.

"Depending on that report he should then be treated in a closed centre, in a hospital, or by a doctor, while under suspended sentence. He should not be returned to society until experts were sure he was well again and did not constitute a menace.

"Dr. Cameron stressed that psychological damage to a child stemmed not only from the attack, but from inquiries by anxious and hostile adults after the attack."

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## OUR MAGAZINE

AS NOTED elsewhere in this issue, our Magazine's circulation has grown by leaps and bounds this year. This has presented problems in the increased cost of production and in the handling of the addressing and mailing of copies. To those who may have been disappointed by late mailings or even by non-receipt of an issue, we offer our sincere apologies and ask their indulgence. We sincerely believe that the Magazine is improving constantly in its appeal to the general membership and we would like to think that your support will continue so that we may go on to still better things.

Associations can help us in this connection by contributions, by securing advertising, by including the subscription in their fees, and by patronizing our advertisers as much as possible.

April, 1956

## I'M GLAD I WENT . . . contd.

there was such a crowd — but I made sure I met and talked with that fellow who held different views. He was a fine man and we got along beautifully. He introduced me to several members of his Association and I, in turn, brought over to the little group the other two representatives from our Association. We had quite a debating bee over in a corner as we drank our coffee. I think all of us gained something from that little session, by the way.

All day Saturday I was on deck and didn't miss a thing and in the evening my wife and I attended the dinner and had a delightful time. Frankly, she was a little lukewarm about going to the dinner, fearing she wouldn't know any one, but when we got there and a couple I had met on Friday invited us to sit at their table, why, everything was swell. She liked it.

All of this was seven years ago. I haven't missed a Conference since — and I don't intend to. I believe in the Home and School movement. There is great work to be done in welding parents and teachers into still closer harmony and our Federation is doing something along this line. I'm trying to do my bit — probably because that first Conference I attended really sold me on Federation. I'm glad I went!



Dr. W. P. PERCIVAL

*Dr. Percival, who was formerly the Director of Protestant Education for Quebec, is to be honoured at the Annual Conference Dinner as this year's winner of the Buzzell Award, presented for outstanding contributions to the Home and School movement in this Province.*







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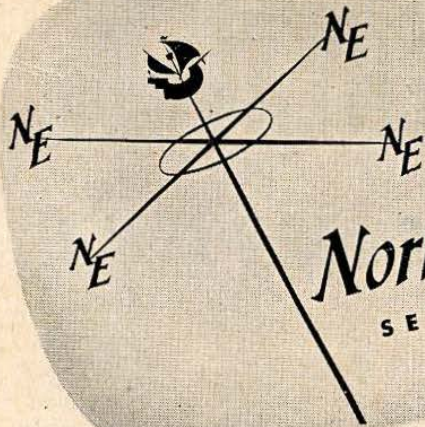
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