

# THE EDUCATIONAL HORIZON

PRESENTING NEWS AND VIEWS OF INTEREST TO TEACHERS AND ALL OTHERS SEEKING IMPROVEMENT IN EDUCATION

## REPORT OF GENERAL SECRETARIES' CONFERENCE HELD IN TORONTO, FEB. 23-24, 1951.

The first national General Secretaries' Conference convened in Federation House, Toronto, on Friday and Saturday, February 23rd and 24th.

Federation House contains the offices of the provincial Ontario Teachers' Federation and the affiliated Federation House is a most elaborate and convenient arrangement, truly, a home for Ontario teachers, who may wish to discuss their various organizations.

Last year, 1950, a somewhat similar conference met in Montreal, but was attended by only those secretaries east of Manitoba. Just here, it may be pointed out that the four Western provinces held a meeting which was attended by both provincial presidents and secretaries.

The first session of the Toronto conference opened on Friday morning with Nora Hodgins, general secretary of O.T.F. in the chair, and Dr. Jim Paton, general secretary of P.A.P.T., as secretary of the conference. Attending were representatives from all provinces except Newfoundland.

After the minutes of the August 17th Saskatoon meeting were read, the first item on the agenda was that of salaries. Ontario reported that practically no one in the secondary schools (i.e., with university degree and one year professional training) is getting less than \$2,000. The minimum is now stated at \$2,500. Maximum for small schools (under 5 teachers) is \$4,200; for larger ones, above \$5,000. The average increase or increment is \$300. Teachers generally are suffering in attitude towards salaries.

Manitoba reported a 10% increase in salary for 1951. Roman Catholic Ontario reported none lower than \$1,300, with the highest at \$2,200. In Nova Scotia, with Junior Matriculation plus 1 year professional training, the beginning salary is \$1,080, with 10 increments of \$60 each. High Schools start at \$1,740. No basic change has been made since 1947. As you may know, Nova Scotia teachers are in the midst of a salary campaign, which, if successful, will give an overall increase of a million and a half dollars. Minister of Education Hicks, however, has been adamantly opposed to any increase.

New Brunswick reported a minimum salary of \$1,100. Recently, Moncton has been given an indicated grant of an additional \$184,000 for education, and Bathurst, \$33,000. No ruling, however, has been given as to how much of this is to be used for teachers' salaries. Alberta reported a trend toward the single salary schedule. The Western Conference of secretaries and presidents has set \$1,800-\$3,000 as basic salary, with \$2,700-\$5,000 for force teachers.

Prince Edward Island reported the situation as you know it too well, also indicating the recent request for salary increases from the Government. The P.A.P.T. the only organization of Quebec represented, reported that the salary campaign conducted last year throughout the province has reasonably good results, the gain being on the average \$183. Montreal, which does its own negotiating without P.A.P.T. help, as does Charlottetown with P.E.I.T.F., got an overall increase of \$198. The provincial average is \$2,512.

British Columbia has a minimum scale of \$1,900-\$3,400 for elementary, and \$2,500-\$4,500 for secondary. An increase of \$200 yearly is expected. The B.C. organization are using the professional basis, the relative standard of living in society, not the cost-of-living argument as the reason for improved salaries.

At this time, Miss Snell of O.T.F., gave comprehensive report of the Ontario Teachers' Federation curriculum project. Committees of both teachers and non-teachers group are organized in many parts of the province to consider the question of curriculum from the local level. There is to be a review of all subjects in both elementary and secondary schools, Grades I - XIII.

Arbitration and Collective Bargaining Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta, and British Columbia all reported the legal right to arbitrate. Ontario has got the LEGAL right, but rather the accepted one. Alberta subjects breakers of contract to fines (which, by the way, they call assessments of cost).

Permit Teachers Saskatchewan - no recognition given. Nova Scotia - given legal protection. Alberta - no professional status. P.E.I. - given recognition, pension deductions, etc. Ontario - almost full rights. Pension deductions, etc. O.T.F. - allow them in, so as to subject them to discipline. H.A.P.T. - full rights.

School Boards Fiscal Independence: - Alberta and British Columbia reported having difficulties regarding fiscal independence of Boards. Machinery for Settling Disputes: - Saskatchewan has a Board of Reference. Alberta settling most cases out of court (80%).

Professional Workshops Manitoba and Saskatchewan and Alberta reported having held workshops. Ontario is beginning one in Child Development (experimental in Toronto). Ontario is also sending 70 teachers to Boston convention this summer. The subject will be Supervision, and Curriculum Development. School Boards, Depart-

ment, and Federation pay their expenses. Saskatchewan are thinking of paying the expenses of chairman of committees, as they feel that if these chairmen are going to give the proper kind of leadership, they must be trained at the expense of their own organization.

Magazine Exchange An attempt is being made to have advertising for the various provincial magazines under one national head. Alberta reported that many of their own teachers are doing writing for their magazine.

Fees Saskatchewan reported that their fee is 1/125 of salary, averaging from \$12-\$60. The Saskatchewan Federation now have a reserve fund of \$100,000, last year paying in \$49,000. Manitoba fees range from \$9-\$20. Ontario secondary teachers pay from \$15-\$30. 30% of the payment is put into a reserve fund, which now amounts to \$150,000. British Columbia budgets for 10% reserves. Each local has its own fee. No one pays less than \$10.50 plus local fee of \$5.00-\$7.00. Nova Scotia gives 25% of its fees to their various locals.

Services To Teachers Because of the fact that teachers sometimes are taken to court because of accidents to pupils, etc., various provinces are concerned about giving certain protective services to teachers. In Ontario, a teacher is liable to from \$4,000-\$9,000 for an accident in class. Manitoba cited a case where one of her teachers was sued for \$10,300 for negligence - a child lost his eye accidentally at a wieners rook. In Saskatchewan, a child drinking at a fountain was tapped on the head, losing two teeth. The teacher was held responsible according to the circumstances of the case. Thus, you see, it certainly seems evident that something should be done to come to the financial aid, at least, of these unfortunate teachers. This is one reason for increased fees. Some provinces have a benevolent fund for teachers. Ontario are considering giving a cost-of-living bonus to its pensioners.

ence, with the P.E.I. General Secretary acting as chairman and convenor of the meeting. It is to be hoped that some arrangement will be made by the C.T.F. convention committee to look after our guests socially during the weekend of this conference. In closing, I should like to express publicly the thanks of our

Federation to the Ontario Teachers' Federation for the hospitality extended to your delegates and to the Charlottetown School Board who so generously paid for my substitute. Respectfully submitted, J.A.S. WILLIAMS, General Secretary.

**FRENCH VOCABULARY** (Panier) - (1) bread, (2) meat, (3) basket, (4) punish, (5) hunger - ( ). (Bouche) - (1) mouth, (2) butcher, (3) farmer, (4) arm, (5) floor - ( ). (Oreille) - (1) country, (2) ear, (3) pride, (4) step, (5) house, ( ) (Presque) - (1) since, (2) now, (3) almost, (4) ready, (5) soon, ( ) (Or) - (1) ear, (2) gold, (3) or, (4) hour, (5) stove - ( ). (Oiseau) - (1) stream, (2) horse, (3) bird, (4) bone, (5) wood - ( ). (Travailleur) - (1) work, (2) find, (3) travel, (4) end, (5) snow - ( ). (Monsieur) - (1) gentleman, (2) glove, (3) lady, (4) woman, (5) station - ( ). (Assiette) - (1) cup, (2) seat, (3) plate, (4) help, (5) chair - ( ). (Argent) - (1) family, (2) woman, (3) money, (4) hunger, (5) island - ( ).

**THE ST. LAWRENCE SEAWAY** During the past 35 years, each of the United States Presidents has asked the Congress of the United States to set up a plan for opening the Great Lakes and the St. Lawrence River to ocean-going vessels. President Truman has requested that the U.S. Congress approve the St. Lawrence Seaway and Power Project.

The seaway, a \$935 million plan, would open the North American heartland to ocean shipping and release a mighty flow of new electric power. The seaway is of vital importance to Western defense, and incidentally to U.S.-Canadian unity. If and when it is built, the seaway will also:

1. Extend the North American seacoast by 8,000 miles, transforming such cities as Chicago, Detroit, Cleveland and Toronto into deep-water ports, where inland shipyards could be located in wartime.
2. Provide a low-cost inland route for shipment of iron ore to midwest steel mills from the rich new deposits being developed in Labrador.
3. Speed overseas shipment of U.S. and Canadian farm products which now must be trans-shipped twice.
4. Pump 3,400,000 h.p. of urgently needed electric energy into the booming industrial complex of New York, Ontario and Quebec.

On the point of Labrador iron ore alone, Western strategists shudder to think of total war with the seaway. With the great mesabi deposits inexorably running out, Labrador is the only known alternative source that could be made completely safe from submarines. The main St. Lawrence bottleneck is a 120-mile stretch from Montreal to Ogdensburg, N.Y., where there is now a system of locks and canals

area to determine its choice of government. 4. An unofficial vote to determine the passage of laws. (Arbitration) - 1. an examination of facts in a case, 2. the settlement of a case in a court of law, 3. a routine exchange of information between two countries, 4. the settlement of a controversy by an authorized person or board. (Supercilious) - 1. diffident, 2. very proud, 3. indifferent to an issue, 4. ridiculous. (Gregarious) - 1. impolite, 2. prone to be cynical, 3. prone to be sociable and friendly, 4. prone to keep to one's self. (Proviso) - 1. an unexpected concurrence, 2. a conditional clause in an agreement, 3. the function of a deputy, 4. the act of being discreet. (Pedagogy) - 1. the science of teaching, 2. medical science dealing with the study of the feet, 3. routine examination of learning, 4. any application of psychology. (Omniscient) - 1. capable, 2. dangerous, 3. all-knowing, 4. all-powerful. (Plebscite) - 1. talkative, 2. credulous, 3. trusting, 4. easily deceived.

**THE MIDDLE EAST** Although aggression in the Far East has turned much attention in that direction, deep thought is being given by military and political leaders of Britain and the United States to the problem of the critical area known as the Middle East. The Western powers realize the vulnerability of this region and their inability to stop an attack on the Middle East should one be made at anytime soon. Defense at present in the Middle East depends on the British Middle East land forces and Royal Air Force and Navy units, the Turks, the Pakistanis, and a United States Navy squadron stationed in the Mediterranean and U.S. air transport bases at Tripoli in Libya and Dhahran in Saudi Arabia.

Some countries of the Middle East are closely connected with the North Atlantic Alliance. Turkey and Greece are associate members. Then Egypt, Jordan and Iraq, a member of the North Atlantic Alliance, the membership of India and Pakistan in the British Commonwealth tie them in. Then, too, Australia, New Zealand, and South Africa, members also of the British Commonwealth, are vitally interested in the well-being of the Middle East.

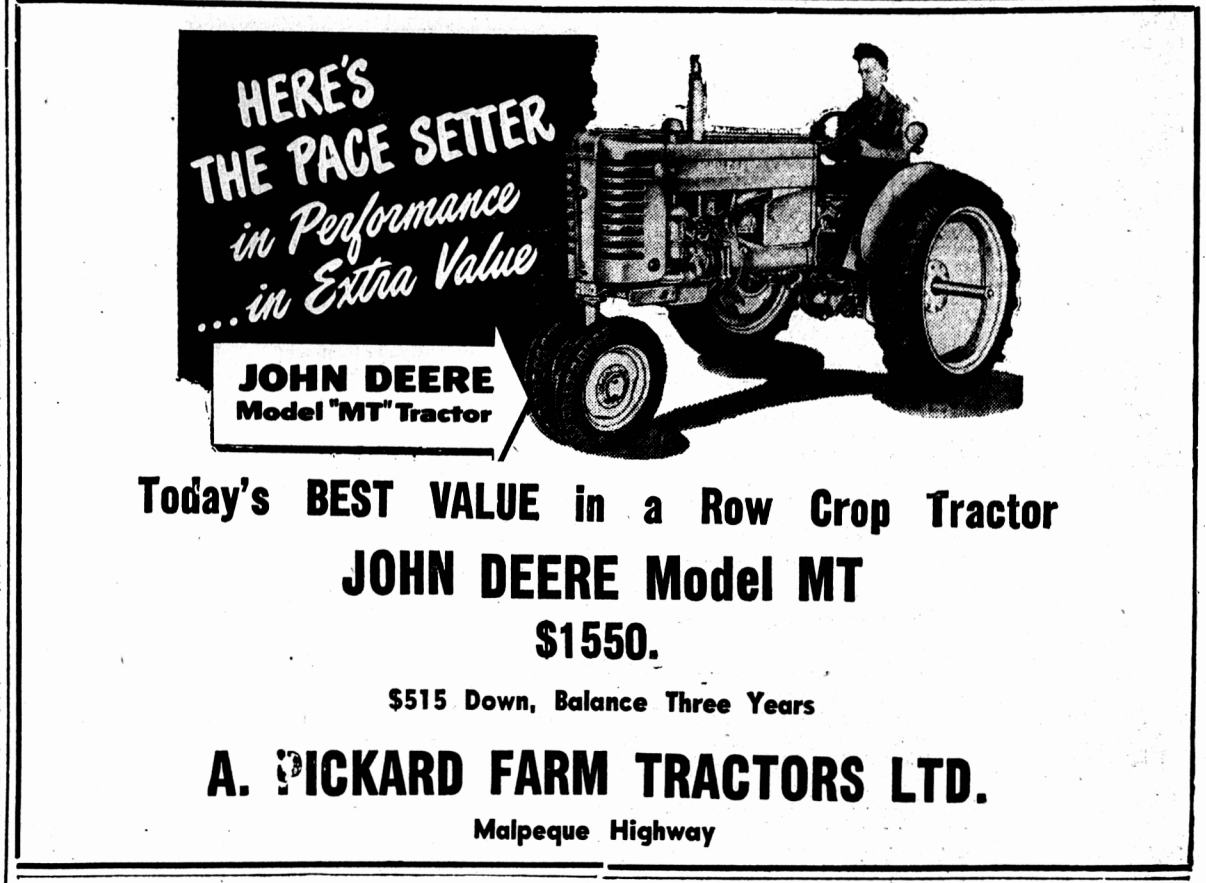
Turkey is the strongest country of the Middle East group. Turkey has modern, well trained armed forces, and since World War II has received a considerable amount of arms and equipment from the United States. Turkey, however, has become alarmed by Russian efforts to increase the Soviet Black Sea fleet and large scale fortifications of the Soviet Black Sea coast including some installations for launching of V-3 missiles. The Turks say that the Russian Black Sea fleet is already far stronger than the entire Turkish navy.

Although, according to most reports, "Turkey's naval forces combined with the coastal fortifications of the straits - the Bosphorus and the Dardanelles - are sufficient to bottle up the hypothetical enemy in the Black Sea until Western reinforcements arrive", and although a naval clash of Turkey with Russia's Black Sea fleet is most unlikely, there are some reasons why Turks might feel uneasy.

1. Russia has tried since the time of Peter the Great to establish its foothold on the Bosphorus and the Dardanelles. 2. Only five years ago the Soviet government demanded a share in the Turkish straits in two formal successive notes handed to the Turkish government. Turkey is extremely important to Middle East defense, too, since it controls both sides of the Strait of Bosphorus and Dardanelles - the narrow passage-way from the Black Sea to the Aegean and Mediterranean Seas. Turkey is approximately one-sixth larger than the Province of Alberta. Most of its 20 million people are farmers. Israel, in relation to her size, has the greatest military potential in the eastern Mediterranean. The country has a great number of skilled and educated people than any of its Arab neighbors and possesses a strong spirit and will to fight, given what it feels is a just cause. The country has a "vital position on the communications line between Turkey and Egypt, and in the Second World War, her territory served as a base and training area for considerable British land and air forces. Now Israel is planning for herself a sizeable army, navy and air force. Israel, however, has no part in the Western plans for Middle East defense. She has not joined the Western group. It would seem, however, that her sympathies in case of East-West war would be with the West and that her forces might prove useful." Iran lies in a strategic position. If it should fall into the hands of

an enemy, the whole Middle East, with its rich oil fields, would be threatened. India and Pakistan would be exposed to attack, and the shipping routes through the Suez Canal would be in danger. These facts make Iran a rich prize which Russia would like to seize. If Soviet troops occupied Iran, Russia would gain the country's oil fields. She would have an important military outpost, and she would have ports on the Arabian Gulf. Iran has made a recent trade agreement with the Soviet Union and has cancelled British and American propaganda broadcasts from Tehran. In both Iran and Iraq, there has been much discontent with the terms of British oil concessions. W.A. The president of Brazil is Getulio Vargas.

**ANTHRAX** It is considered as the worst disease of cattle and is one of the oldest and most deadly diseases afflicting animals. It still persists in all cattle-raising countries, and is especially prevalent in swampy regions. Although it is most common among cattle, sheep, goats, and horses, it may affect other domestic animals such as hogs, cats, dogs, and poultry. It also attacks many wild animals, and even man is not immune to the disease. Not until 1849 was the cause of anthrax discovered. In that year the German scientist, Alois Pollender, found that the disease is due to certain rod-shaped bacteria which grow rapidly in the blood and tissues of animals, and produce poisons that cause death. Later Robert Koch and Louis Pasteur made a special study of these bacteria and finally devised a method of preventive inoculation. Anthrax bacteria enter the body through external wounds or with air or food. The disease is usually fatal, causing death in 70 to 80 per cent of the animals infected. In acute cases death may come within a few hours, the only noticeable symptoms being a high fever with quickened breathing and pulse. In less acute cases the victim may live for several days, being restless, having frequent convulsions, and sometimes developing rabuncles. Because the spleen is affected, the disease is often called splenic fever. It is now possible to prevent the spread of the disease by inoculating healthy animals with anthrax vaccine. Because the malady is very contagious. Continued on page 15.



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