

2-4-30

Special Meeting CouncilSpecial Meeting of Council held on Wednesday2<sup>nd</sup> April @ 8.15 p.m. to meet the Chief

Inspector of Technical Schools - Mr. E. P.

Eltham.

Present The Vice-President, Mr. F. Barron

in the chair, Crs. H. B. Peirny, N. C. Heathcote,

H. B. George, E. Hall, M. B. John, L. Lederman

A. J. Burden, F. Saunders, A. O. Stubbs, J. Truill

The Principal, Mr. A. F. Heseltine, The Art

Principal, Mr. H. H. Smith and the Chief

Inspector of Technical Schools - Mr. E. P.

Eltham.

Mr. Eltham thanked the Council for the welcome extended by the Chairman and for the opportunity of making the acquaintance of members.

When officers of the Department were able to get into touch with Staff and Council members, troubles which arose from time to time were more readily solved.

The field of Technical Education had extended greatly in recent years and included the Fine Arts and Science as applied to Industry, Agriculture, Domestic Economy etc. etc. Problems of the past had been attacked and many had not yet been touched. Great problems are awaiting us in the future.

New Courses of work must be applied to take the place of older ones and work carried on to meet the special demands of the districts. The extent to which Technical Schools can supply the district depends on how far Secondary Schools can supply Technical Education. Changes are taking place in Industry every day and Schools must keep in close touch in order to assist.

The amalgamation of the position of Chief Inspector with that of Chairman of the Apprenticeship Commission was made in order that the Inspector may be enabled to keep in touch with Trade Bodies and have responsibilities with Schools in order to lay down a definite course of guidance and action as well as obtain the material assistance of these bodies. No doubt the future of Technical Education is wrapped up with the Industries that will still require skilled work - Machines and appliances must be kept in condition and require skilled work to adjust.

Although not required in the same proportion as in the past - still, a large demand subsists for highly skilled men for repairs and breakdown. Close supervision is required and can only be carried out by technically trained men. From a Science point of view as Industry develops, trained men must be ready to take up the work.

At the present time the State is passing through a bad period. The Treasurer is concerned with ways and means of financing the requirements and maintenance of Schools. He - Mr. Eltham - recognises that this Council is prepared to assist the Treasurer and economise in items of expenditure wherever possible. Such items as Lighting, Travelling Expenses etc. should be examined to see that monies are spent to the best advantage.

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The Staffing of Schools is being watched very closely and he was sure he would have the co-operation of the Council in these matters.

Future matters of Policy in connexion with Technical Education embracing the aims of the Technical Schools' Association and certain proposals made by the Hon. the Minister of Education - vital to the Department are now being discussed, he was not yet in a position to speak of these matters.

The question of the existing methods of control of Staff and Teachers (1) By the Public Service Classifier and (2) By the Technical Schools Branch was another matter under discussion.

The Chairman in thanking Mr. Eltham for his address remarked on the keenness and enthusiasm of the Chief Inspector for the work and success of the Schools. It is recognised that we cannot keep going on the same lines each year and our aims must be well directed in keeping abreast of the times.

Cr. Lederman in moving a vote of thanks to Mr. Eltham for coming here - recognised the difficulties of the Department and the Treasurer. The Council also realized that it was imperative to economise and whether we liked it or not we were bound to do so.

The vote was seconded by Cr. Heathcote and carried unanimously.

Confirmed

16-4-30

F. Barron