

Late Ministry's Attitude.

At the suggestion of the Attorney-General the deputation stated the progress of negotiations with the Hearst Government. According to the then arrangement, the Roman Catholics were to choose between two alternatives: the Government would recognize their then existing schools and they were to open no more, or they could go to the courts. Unhesitatingly, declared the deputation members, they chose the alternative of going to the courts.

It was agreed at that earlier date that the matter would be referred to the courts where, according to the understanding of Mr. O'Brien, the whole question was to be taken up "academically." Premier Hearst, they said, had accepted the principle that the Government should pay all the costs of the action. But the proposal was not acted upon, because, according to the spokesmen, the Government had later suggested that, in view of war conditions, the friendly action be not gone on with, and the Government offered certain concessions.

Moral and Just Claim.

Rev. Father Foley argued very forcibly for the justice of the requests made by the separate school supporters. Perhaps, he agreed, if the law of 1863 were to be interpreted according to its letter, the separate school supporters might not have a claim. But nobody, he said, could justly argue they had not a moral and a just claim to what they were asking.

"Speaking quite frankly, as a citizen," declared the Premier, "my own view is that a tremendous mistake would be made to extend the separate school system to the high school in the interests of the unity of the people of a united Canada."

In reply, the Bishop of Peterboro' referred to English conditions, where three school systems flourished, and yet, he said, no one would declare that the English people were not united.

Prefer Privy Council.

The deputation left after stating their preference for a decision of the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council, in that it was a constitutional question. They stated that they did not want to be put in the position of suing the Government.

Providing the separate school advocates accept the principle of reference to the courts, the matter of questions to be submitted will be the subject of conference between the Government and the Roman Catholic Council's legal advisers.

HIGHWAYS PROGRAM EXCLUDES FERRIES

Deputation From Eastern Townships Interview Hon. F. C. Biggs

Residents of Prince Edward county and the counties of Lennox and Addington and Hastings are endeavoring to have the Provincial Department of Highways take over the wagon and car ferry which operates between Adolphustown, on the mainland, and Glenora, on the island county, and operate it as part of the Provincial highways system. A deputation of representatives of Belleville, Picton and Kingston arrived in the city yesterday, and will see Hon. F. C. Biggs, Minister of Public Works and Highways, in connection with this matter.

The interesting feature of the request which the deputation will make is that the highway system does not, as at present constituted, contain any provision for the inclusion of ferry services. Only bridges and roadways are provided for. The deputation will point out, however, that if the arm of the Bay of Quinte at this point was slightly narrower it would be quite feasible to build a bridge there.

If this were possible, the bridge would be constructed, and 60 per cent. of the cost would be borne by the Province. A structure of this nature would cost not less than \$100,000, and the annual carrying charges on the Provincial share of \$60,000 would exceed the cost of the operation of the ferry. The deputation will justify their claim on this ground.

At present the roads leading to Adolphustown and Glenora are county roads, controlled by the respective counties.

"School Question" Answered

Hon. R. H. Grant, Minister of Education, made formal answer yesterday in the Legislature to a question asked by J. R. Cooke, North Hastings, regarding grants paid to public and separate schools. Mr. Cooke's question was:

What is the total amount of Legislative grants paid for the year 1921, (a) to rural public schools, (b) to rural separate schools? 2—What amounts of the Legislative grants have been paid to (a) rural public schools, (b) rural separate schools, apportioned upon the following basis:

- (1) According to assessment.
- (2) The annual salary paid to teachers.
- (3) Grade of certificate held and length of the teacher's teaching experience.
- (4) The equipment and accommodation of the schools.
- (5) A graded "fixed grant" where the section assessment is less than \$50,000.

Hon. Mr. Grant answered question No. 1 as follows: (a) \$1,510,289.95, and (b) \$135,627.52.

Question No. 2 he answered as follows:

Assessment.	Public.	Separate.
Below \$30,000	\$ 167,352.94	\$ 7,348.20
\$ 30,000 to \$ 40,000	47,043.80	15,653.13
\$ 40,000 to \$ 60,000	102,625.03	18,576.96
\$ 60,000 to \$100,000	232,632.66	23,632.01
\$100,000 to \$300,000	707,584.57	54,665.69
\$300,000 and over	198,144.95	10,365.28
	\$1,455,383.95	\$130,241.27
Equipment and accommodation (about \$12 per school section)	54,906.00	5,386.25
Totals	\$1,510,289.95	\$135,627.52

The answer to the other portions of Question No. 2 was given as under:

	Public.	*Separate.
Fixed grant	\$ 17,175.00	\$ 3,283.20
Grant on certificate	118,145.80	12,880.32
Regular grant on salary	372,638.79	44,143.14
Supplementary grant on salary	947,424.36	69,934.61
Equipment and accommodation	54,906.00	5,386.25
Total	\$1,510,289.95	\$135,627.52

*This includes the 92 per cent. pro rata increase to Roman Catholic separate schools.