

Thurs. 9 April, 1987 P. 7

103

Page 8, The Evening Telegram, Thurs

Pentecostal funding plan on debate schedule

A resolution to amend Term 17 of the terms of Union of Newfoundland and Canada to provide the Pentecostal Assemblies of Newfoundland with denominational school status within the constitution was introduced Wednesday and will be debated Friday simultaneously in the provincial House of Assembly and the House of Commons.

Since 1954 the Pentecostal Assemblies schools of the province have enjoyed the same rights and privileges from the province as have the major religious denominations. In 1949 when the province joined Canada those rights were entrenched in the British North America Act and maintained when the Canadian Constitution was repatriated in 1981.

However, in 1949 in Newfoundland, the Pentecostal Assemblies were not recognized as a major religion, having only 3.3 per cent of the population and operating small schools in only six communities in the province - Point au Bay, Windsor, Horse Islands, White Bay, Samsons Island and Black Island in Notre Dame Bay and Salt Pond (now Embree).

PASTOR PLEASED

Pastor Roy King said Wednesday he is pleased the denominational education rights are being entrenched in the constitution at last.

The Pentecostal Assemblies petitioned the provincial government for recognition in 1951. In 1954 a unanimous vote to recognize the group was passed in the House of Assembly. Since then those schools have received from the province per capita grants on the same basis as other denominations. Negotiations have been ongoing since at least 1971 between the two levels of government for entrenchment.

The Pentecostal population is now about 6.6 per cent of the total.

Over the past two years efforts have been increased.

Debate on the resolution is not expected to take long with speedy passage anticipated.

Denominational education councils soundly reject NTA's school brief

By PAT DOYLE

Of The Evening Telegram

The Newfoundland Teachers' Association (NTA) claim that the denominational education system is inefficient and wasteful has been soundly rejected by the three Denominational Education Councils (DECs).

And one of the councils, the Pentecostal Education Council, said it believes the NTA is attempting to discredit the current education system with a view to getting rid of it.

At a news conference Monday morning, the Pentecostal, Catholic and Integrated Education Councils also dismissed the NTA call for a royal commission into the province's denominational education system.

The DECs, which were established under the Education Act passed by the Newfoundland Legislature in 1968, are the legally-constituted bodies which represent the churches in the regulation of education in this province.

They were responding Monday to a brief on the denominational education system presented by the NTA to the provincial cabinet's social policy committee in June. The press conference was held in the DECs' offices on the second floor of the B.F.L. Building, Crosbie Road.

Representatives of the three councils held a joint news conference although each issued a separate statement.

They charged that the NTA brief contained unsubstantiated claims, innuendos, exaggerations, errors of fact, and mis-statements.

But Pastor Earl Batstone, executive director of the Pentecostal Education Council, made the strongest statement, saying he had the impression from the NTA brief that the teachers' association was trying to discredit the denominational education system, on economic grounds, with a view to get-



At a joint press conference at the BFL Building Monday, representatives from three denominational education councils issued statements strongly criticising an NTA brief on the denominational education system.

All three councils said the present education system has served the needs well. They agreed there are weaknesses in the system and said they are willing to work with all concerned on improvements. But they said a royal

commission into the denominational education system is not needed at this time and would itself be an unnecessary waste.

The three DECs all said they were concerned by the negative approach to the whole issue reflected in the NTA

brief. The other representatives at the news conference were Frank Kearsy, executive director of the CEC and Dr. Tom Pope, executive director of the Integrated Educational Council.

The other representatives at the news conference were Frank Kearsy, executive director of the CEC and Dr. Tom Pope, executive director of the Integrated Educational Council.

Reaction

Teachers trying to discredit system?

The Pentecostal Education Council says it is concerned about what it sees as an attempt by the Newfoundland Teachers' Association (NTA) to discredit the province's denominational education system.

The three Denominational Education Councils (DECs) issued their response Monday to a brief on denominational education presented by the NTA to the provincial government in June.

Pastor Earl Batstone, executive director of the PEC, said he had gotten the strong impression from the teachers' association brief and that NTA is attempting to discredit the denominational education system, on economic grounds, with a view to getting rid of it.

Pastor Earl Batstone also said that since the 1969 reorganization within the education system, the Pentecostal schools have experienced much im-

provement in facilities, programs and personnel.

"We take serious issue with the innuendo that by maintaining our separate schools, we are failing to offer quality education to our children," Pastor Batstone said.

He said the present education system has a long tradition of serving well the educational needs of the children of this province. He said the contributions, financially and otherwise, made by the churches have been rather substantial.

The present system has many positive factors and the PEC has great difficulty with the negative positions presented by the NTA in its brief, he said.

SYSTEM A SCAPEGOAT: Pastor Batstone said the weaknesses that do exist in the present educational system are due to factors other than

denominational but it is the denominational system that becomes the "scapegoat" in the NTA brief.

He said the PEC is prepared to co-operate with the partners in education in addressing these weaknesses.

Pastor Batstone said it is unfortunate that a guess becomes the basis of much of the criticism in the NTA brief.

"Estimations of wastage of public dollars to support the system, and questionable claims of overlapping jurisdictions and administrative inefficiency are unsupported by fact."

Such guesses lead to very illogical conclusions, he said.

For example, in excess of \$60 million of the \$77 million the NTA claims is the extra cost to the provincial government for the denominational system relates to teachers' salaries, said Pastor Batstone.

"Is one fifth of the teaching force

redundant? Should salaries be reduced by one-fifth to effect this saving?"

BRIEF APPEARS TO DISCREDIT

Pastor Batstone said despite the NTA's attempt to give reassurance that it is not attempting to weaken or destroy denominational education, "we fail to see this assurance carried out in the criticism it has launched against the system."

He said that after reading the NTA brief, one is left with the distinct impression that the NTA is calling for one public system such as prevails in much of North America, without exploring the weaknesses and bias of such a system.

Pastor Batstone said the PEC believes that the call for a royal commission at this time is not warranted on the basis of the findings and "conjecture" put forward in the NTA brief.

Bill ignores strengths of the system

A Newfoundland Teachers' Association (NTA) brief to government on the denominational education system totally ignores the strength of the system and its positive contribution to education in this province, says the Catholic Education Council (CEC) in their response to the brief issued at a joint

Mr. Kearsy said the CEC will co-operate with all concerned to make improvements in the present system and will co-operate even further in such areas as shared facilities and teachers and common busing, provided that "the religious freedoms and liberties of our people are in no way jeopardized and

of "isolation by denomination," is either "at best, a total misunderstanding of our denominational system or, at worst, a gross mis-statement of what the teachers and the NTA know to be its true purpose and intent."

He said examples given by the NTA are exaggerated and "incredibly

which could beneficially review the educational system at a particular point in time, but there are no valid reasons for such a commission given in the NTA brief.

The education system is constantly under review with a view to making it more efficient and effective, he said,

Teachers trying to discredit system

The Pentecostal Education Council says it is concerned about what it sees as an attempt by the Newfoundland Teachers' Association (NTA) to discredit the province's denominational education system.

The three Denominational Education Councils (DECs) issued their response Monday to a brief on denominational education presented by the NTA to the provincial government in June.

Pastor Earl Batstone, executive director of the PEC, said he had gotten the strong impression from the teachers' association brief that NTA is attempting to discredit the denominational education system, on economic grounds, with a view to getting rid of it.

Pastor Earl Batstone also said that since the 1969 reorganization within the education system, the Pentecostal schools have experienced much im-

provement in facilities, programs and personnel.

"We take serious issue with the innuendo that by maintaining our separate schools, we are failing to offer quality education to our children," Pastor Batstone said.

SYSTEM HAS PREDICTION

He said the present education system has a long tradition of serving well the educational needs of the children of this province. He said the contributions, financially and otherwise, made by the churches have been rather substantial.

The present system has many positive factors and the PEC has great difficulty with the negative positions presented by the NTA in its brief, he said.

SYSTEM A 'SCAPEGOAT'
Pastor Batstone said the weaknesses that do exist in the present educational system are due to factors other than

denominational but it is the denominational system that becomes the "scapegoat" in the NTA brief.

He said the PEC is prepared to co-operate with the partners in education in addressing these weaknesses.

Pastor Batstone said it is unfortunate that a guess becomes the basis of much of the criticism in the NTA brief.

"Estimations of wastage of public dollars to support the system, and questionable claims of overlapping jurisdiction and administrative inefficiency are unsupported by fact."

Such guesses lead to very illogical conclusions, he said.

For example, in excess of \$60 million of the \$77 million the NTA claims is the extra cost to the provincial government for the denominational system relates to teachers' salaries, said Pastor Batstone.

"Is one fifth of the teaching force

redundant? Should salaries be reduced by one-fifth to effect this saving?"

BRIEF APPEARS TO DISCREDIT

Pastor Batstone said despite the NTA's attempt to give reassurance that it is not attempting to weaken or destroy denominational education, "we fail to see this assurance carried out in the criticism it has launched against the system."

He said that after reading the NTA brief, one is left with the distinct impression that the NTA is calling for one public system such as prevails in much of North America, without exploring the weaknesses and bias of such a system.

Pastor Batstone said the PEC believes that the call for a royal commission at this time is not warranted on the basis of the findings and "conjecture" put forward in the NTA brief.

Bill ignores strengths of the system

A Newfoundland Teachers' Association (NTA) brief to government on the denominational education system totally ignores the strength of the system and its positive contribution to education in this province, says the Catholic Education Council (CEC) in their response to the brief issued at a joint press conference Monday.

Frank Kearsey, executive director of the CEC, said the present education system is based on sound philosophical and educational principles, is in accord with the fundamental right of parents to choose according to their own convictions the kind of education and the model of school they wish for their children, and has served educational needs well for more than 100 years.

Mr. Kearsey said the CEC will co-operate with all concerned to make improvements in the present system and will co-operate even further in such areas as shared facilities and teachers and common busing, provided that "the religious freedoms and liberties of our people are in no way jeopardized and will continue to be safeguarded according to the provisions of the governing Schools Act and the Constitution of Canada."

Mr. Kearsey said that for the NTA to talk about the ability of various recognized denominations to establish and maintain schools, which have as their object the formation of the whole person, including education in the faith of a particular denomination, in terms

of "isolation by denomination," is either, "at best, a total misunderstanding of our denominational system or, at worst, a gross misstatement of what the teachers and the NTA know to be its true purpose and intent."

He said examples given by the NTA are exaggerated and "incredibly" negative.

There are many errors of fact in the NTA brief, said Mr. Kearsey.

He said the NTA provided no evidence to back up its claim that at least one-fifth of the provincial budget for education is wasted as a result of duplication.

Mr. Kearsey said the CEC would be open to a royal commission which has been given a proper mandate and

which could beneficially review the educational system at a particular point in time, but there are no valid reasons for such a commission given in the NTA brief.

The education system is constantly under review with a view to making it more efficient and effective, he said, and therefore a royal commission at this time would constitute an unnecessary expense.

"A review by a Newfoundland royal commission calculated to undermine what Canadians have just recognized anew as a constitutional right under the constitution Act of 1981 would be contrary to fundamentals of justice to all and the spirit of our pluralistic society," Mr. Kearsey said.

Regrets totally negative approach

The Integrated Education Council said it regrets the "totally negative approach" taken by the Newfoundland Teachers Association (NTA) in its brief to the provincial government on the denominational education system.

The province's three Denominational Education Councils held a news conference Monday at which they released their response to the teachers' association's brief.

Dr. Tom Pope, executive director of the Integrated Education Council, said the overall thrust of the relevant section of the NTA brief appears to be the desirability of further denominational co-operation in the delivery of school services. The IEC endorses that thrust, he said.

But Dr. Pope said the council regrets

the need to be critical of the methods used by the NTA in its approach to the issue.

For example, he said, there is no reference in the brief to the history and geography of the school system.

"Moreover, the financial costs attached by the brief to the system are not based on facts. Also, the duplications of certain facilities and the existence of small schools are exaggerated."

Dr. Pope said the brief attributes the cost and scope of school transportation to the denominational system, and no reference is made to settlement patterns and the desirability of having students attend larger schools.

He said that the brief refers to what it terms "questionable means of operation," including the building of schools

based on denominational needs, the building of church-school combined buildings, and the construction of small unsophisticated schools.

"As general statements, the council points out that these are untrue," said Dr. Pope.

On the same questionable basis, he said, the brief speaks to government's funding of the councils.

It surely would be known by those responsible for the brief that the churches do not have "their own systems," Dr. Pope said.

"The system we have is the province's. The province adopted the denominational school system. The churches became partners with the province in the administration of the system and in so doing have over the years contributed greatly to the school system."

Dr. Pope said the IEC does not sup-

port the establishment of a royal commission as called for in the NTA brief. He said there is no basis provided in the brief for an educational review of that nature.

But he said consideration might be given to a special committee studying the strengths and weaknesses of the system with a view to recommending further denominational co-operation.

**Seagram's
RYE COOLER**

one can see, however,
Que., Nov 4, 1986, P. 3

Tuesday, November 4, 1986

School superintendents want more involvement in educational system

The president of the Newfoundland and Labrador Association of Superintendents of Education says members plan to take a higher profile in the educational decision-making process.

Ed Smith of Springdale said Monday the association is preparing a feasibility study on hiring part-time support staff. A decision will be made during the annual general meeting in May, 1987, he said.

The association, he said, is looking at hiring an executive secretary who will do research and prepare position papers which will provide input on decisions affecting education.

"At the moment, all we're able to do is react when somebody makes a statement or makes a decision," he said. "We'd like to be part of it from the beginning so that we don't need to

react, we can be effective before it actually becomes a fact."

He said the association consists of 96 superintendents and assistant superintendents employed by the province's 32 school boards. He described the superintendents as the chief executive officers of the school boards who are responsible for such things as planning school construction, programming and budgeting.

Mr. Smith said members of his association are in the unique position of implementing the policies of the school boards and the provincial Department of Education and seeing how they work.

"Given that fact, we should have quite a bit of input into policy making," he said. "We should be there whenever policies are being made that affect our schools, our teachers and our children most of all."

The association, he said, does have a liaison committee now which provides a forum to discuss policies with the Department of Education and other organizations involved in the educational field. But, he said they are trying to expand their input and be pro-active as well as reactive.

During a meeting in Gander last month to discuss the future of the association, he said members decided to establish two standing committees.

The first will look at legislation being drafted by the provincial government and respond to it.

"We don't mean to be a critic in the negative sense but to respond to the (provincial) department when it comes up with any kind of legislation that is going to affect us," he said. "That committee will look at it, examine its implications, and try to advise the department from our perspective on what effect this legislation will have."

He said the second committee will study the professional needs of the province's superintendents and make recommendations on steps that should be taken to assist professional development.

The association, he said, would also like to have representation on a number of committees that work at the departmental level such as committees on pensions, teachers' certification and policies and a general advisory committee which advises provincial Education Minister Loyola Hearn.

"Superintendents have never before been so determined to take an effective role in the overall educational process, both at the provincial level and in terms of their own development as professionals," he said. "They seem willing to take whatever steps are necessary, financially and organizationally, to realize that objective."

Politicians heap praise on Pentecostal system

By MAUDIE WHELAN
Of The Evening Telegram

If there was any doubt Newfoundland's legislators are in favor of the denominational education system, it was dispelled Friday morning in the House of Assembly.

For two hours in a debate on the resolution to have denominational education rights enshrined in the Canadian Constitution on behalf of the Pentecostal Assemblies of Newfoundland, Premier Brian Peckford, Loyola Hearn, Minister of Education, Roger Simmons, interim Opposition leader and Leo Barry, provincial Liberal Party leader, praised the system in general and the Pentecostal schools in particular.

Gene Long (NDP-St. John's East) did not speak in the debate but voted in favor of the resolution, which passed unanimously minutes before the House adjourned at 1 p.m. for an Easter break of two weeks.

New Democratic Party leader Peter Fenwick was absent from the House. He is in his district of Menihek.

Pentecostal Pastor Roy King was in the Speaker's gallery for what was described by Premier Peckford as an "historic and memorable" event. Pastor King said he did not expect such lengthy or laudible speeches from the members of the legislature and Premier Peckford.

SIGNIFICANT

"Any amendment to the constitution of a country is significant," said Mr. Peckford, "but what we are doing and what the government of Canada will be doing is ensuring the rights and privileges of a religious denomination in a province that have been enjoyed by other religious denominations since 1949 — that's not housekeeping legislation."

The Pentecostal Assemblies, he said, have grown to be a very influential organization, performing a very valuable service spiritually to society generally, and educationally to students in the province.

"In my experience over the last five years in particular, and I could go 10, the education, academic as well as religious that the Pentecostal Assemblies are providing to these schools are exemplary," the premier said. The premier has two daughters who attended Pentecostal schools over the last several years. He has also taught in the Integrated School system. He said he would urge any member of the legislature who has not visited a Pentecostal school, to do so — "it would do your heart good."

"From the point of view of sheer cleanliness, organization, discipline — when you walk into the doors of a Pentecostal school, it is an unbelievable experience. They have done an excellent job — I want to publicly congratulate them."

TELLS OF VISIT

The premier related a visit he made last fall to the northern Labrador coast, during which he stopped in Postville and visited the Pentecostal school. He remembered the manners and courtesy of the children to their elders and their peers.

"In the total delivery of the education program," said Mr. Peckford, "the Pentecostal schools have not forgotten the family and the social values — others could take a leaf from their book."

Mr. Peckford referred to current debate about the va-

lue of denominational schools which, he said, are valid arguments in terms of duplication of service.

But, he said, "it is ironic, at a time when we are questioning denominational education, the richest province in Canada, Ontario, is recognizing denominational schools and funding them."

The premier urged factions arguing the merits of denominational education not to throw out all that is good but not to hold fast to all that was in the past.

Keep the best, he said, and find a middle ground.

"As time goes on I hope Pentecostal Assemblies will not be tempted to dilute their current approach to the delivery of education. Hopefully it will continue to be the shining light of the future."

FIRST AMENDMENT

Mr. Simmons said Friday's amendment is the first that has been made to the Canadian Constitution since it was patriated April 15, 1982.

A companion resolution was introduced in the House of Commons Friday and is expected to proceed without difficulty.

Mr. Simmons also praised the denominational system, saying a secular system says to the child 'you have a mind'; the Christian system says 'you have a mind and a soul.'

He noted that Tom Mitchell, father of Cal Mitchell, (PC-Lapointe) was a forerunner of Pentecostal education in the province.

Education Minister Hearn said the first schools in the province were set up by religious missionaries who provided the people with "solid values."

He said there is much to be improved in the Newfoundland system but said he sees evidence every day of co-operation among the different denominations to improve the delivery of education.

CAN'T STAND STILL

"It's not an issue where you sit on the fence. We've made no bones about where we stand. But we can't stand still. We have to strengthen it."

Leo Barry said Friday's event is not a minor matter.

"We are limiting the powers of this legislature (by) agreeing to enshrine rights and privileges into the constitution which no longer can be affected by decisions of this House."

He said it would be supported as a matter of principle because all religious denominations should be treated equally.

Entrenchment has been supported by the Liberals historically.

He said Vaters Collegiate, the Pentecostal high school in St. John's, is often the leading high school in the province.

"That is an example of how their approach to education has paid off."

Jim Russell, Minister of Consumer Affairs and MHA for Lewisporte, said he represents about 45 per cent of the Pentecostal population in the province (6.6 per cent of the total population). He said he was pleased to be part of the historic occasion of entrenchment of their rights, once formalized in the House of Commons.

All members of the House who spoke in the debate are former teachers.

Denominational education critic fears move will set a precedent

The proposed amendment of the Terms of Union to provide the Pentecostal Assemblies of Newfoundland with

kinds of changes to be introduced," she said.

The heads of the DECS, she said, have always down-

opposition leader and NDP leader, praised the system in general and the Pentecostal schools in particular.

Gene Long (NDP-St. John's East) did not speak in the debate but voted in favor of the resolution, which passed unanimously minutes before the House adjourned at 1 p.m. for an Easter break of two weeks.

New Democratic Party leader Peter Fenwick was absent from the House. He is in his district of Menihek.

Pentecostal Pastor Roy King was in the Speaker's gallery for what was described by Premier Peckford as an "historic and memorable" event. Pastor King said he did not expect such lengthy or laudible speeches from the members of the legislature and Premier Peckford.

SIGNIFICANT

"Any amendment to the constitution of a country is significant," said Mr. Peckford, "but what we are doing and what the government of Canada will be doing is ensuring the rights and privileges of a religious denomination in a province that have been enjoyed by other religious denominations since 1949 — that's not housekeeping legislation."

The Pentecostal Assemblies, he said, have grown to be a very influential organization, performing a very valuable service spiritually to society generally, and educationally to students in the province.

"In my experience over the last five years in particular, and I could go 10, the education, academic as well as religious that the Pentecostal Assemblies are providing to these schools are exemplary," the premier said. The premier has two daughters who attended Pentecostal schools over the last several years. He has also taught in the Integrated School system. He said he would urge any member of the legislature who has not visited a Pentecostal school, to do so — "it would do your heart good."

"From the point of view of sheer cleanliness, organization, discipline — when you walk into the doors of a Pentecostal school, it is an unbelievable experience. They have done an excellent job — I want to publicly congratulate them."

TELLS OF VISIT

The premier related a visit he made last fall to the northern Labrador coast, during which he stopped in Postville and visited the Pentecostal school. He remembered the manners and courtesy of the children to their elders and their peers.

"In the total delivery of the education program," said Mr. Peckford, "the Pentecostal schools have not forgotten the family and the social values — others could take a leaf from their book."

Mr. Peckford referred to current debate about the va-

delivery of education. Hopefully it will continue to be the shining light of the future."

FIRST AMENDMENT

Mr. Simmons said Friday's amendment is the first that has been made to the Canadian Constitution since it was patriated April 15, 1982.

A companion resolution was introduced in the House of Commons Friday and is expected to proceed without difficulty.

Mr. Simmons also praised the denominational system, saying a secular system says to the child 'you have a mind'; the Christian system says 'you have a mind and a soul.'

He noted that Tom Mitchell, father of Cal Mitchell, (PC-Lapointe) was a forerunner of Pentecostal education in the province.

Education Minister Hearn said the first schools in the province were set up by religious missionaries who provided the people with "solid values."

He said there is much to be improved in the Newfoundland system but said he sees evidence every day of co-operation among the different denominations to improve the delivery of education.

CAN'T STAND STILL

"It's not an issue where you sit on the fence. We've made no bones about where we stand. But we can't stand still. We have to strengthen it."

Leo Barry said Friday's event is not a minor matter.

"We are limiting the powers of this legislature (by) agreeing to enshrine rights and privileges into the constitution which no longer can be affected by decisions of this House."

He said it would be supported as a matter of principle because all religious denominations should be treated equally.

Entrenchment has been supported by the Liberals historically.

He said Vaters Collegiate, the Pentecostal high school in St. John's, is often the leading high school in the province.

"That is an example of how their approach to education has paid off."

Jim Russell, Minister of Consumer Affairs and MHA for Lewisporte, said he represents about 45 per cent of the Pentecostal population in the province (6.6 per cent of the total population). He said he was pleased to be part of the historic occasion of entrenchment of their rights, once formalized in the House of Commons.

All members of the House who spoke in the debate are former teachers.

Denominational education critic fears move will set a precedent

The proposed amendment of the Terms of Union to provide the Pentecostal Assemblies of Newfoundland with denominational school status in the constitution has one critic of denominational education worried the move will set a door-opening precedent.

Lynn Byrnes, a past president of the Newfoundland and Labrador Human Rights Association and a frequent critic of the denominational system, said Friday common sense indicates that if the amendment goes through, "the door is left wide-open" for other denominational groups to eventually demand similar status.

For opponents of the system and those who at least favor a review of denominational education, the amendment would denote a deeper entrenchment of a system they consider inefficient and too costly.

Ms. Byrnes has another interpretation of the resolution — if the Terms of Union can be amended, parts of them can also be repealed.

"If we can amend the Terms of Union after all we've heard from the churches and the denominational councils about how its provisions protecting the system are practically carved in stone, well, it opens up the way for all

kinds of changes to be introduced," she said.

The heads of the DEC's, she said, have always downplayed criticism of the system by arguing the Terms of Union can't be changed. Even if an amending formula allows for changes, Ms. Byrnes added, Friday's passage of the resolution (to amend) without serious debate is still unsettling.

The amendment requires the approval of both the provincial House of Assembly and the House of Commons.

Meanwhile, John Noel, senior counsel with the provincial Department of Justice, declined to offer an opinion of Ms. Byrnes' interpretation. He neither denied nor confirmed the validity of her claims.

The Pentecostal Assemblies were recognized by the House of Assembly in 1954. Since then, Pentecostal schools have received per capita grants on the same basis as other denominations. When Newfoundland joined Confederation in 1949, the Pentecostal Assemblies made up only 3.3 per cent of the population and were not recognized as a major religion.

Pentecostals now comprise about 6.6 per cent of the total population.

the Evening Telegram, Sat April 11/1987 p.3

Pentecostal funding plan on debate schedule

A resolution to amend Term 17 of the terms of Union of Newfoundland and Canada to provide the Pentecostal Assemblies of Newfoundland with denominational school status within the constitution was introduced Wednesday and will be debated Friday simultaneously in the provincial House of Assembly and the House of Commons.

Since 1954 the Pentecostal Assemblies schools of the province have enjoyed the same rights and privileges from the province as have the major religious denominations. In 1949 when the province joined Canada those rights were entrenched in the British North America Act and maintained when the Canadian Constitution was repatriated in 1981.

However, in 1949 in Newfoundland, the Pentecostal Assemblies were not recognized as a major religion, having only 3.3 per cent of the population and operating small schools in only six communities in the province - Point au Bay, Windsor, Horse Islands, White Bay, Samsons Island and Black Island in Notre Dame Bay and Salt Pond (now Embree).

PASTOR PLEASED

Pastor Roy King said Wednesday he is pleased the denominational education rights are being entrenched in the constitution at last.

The Pentecostal Assemblies petitioned the provincial government for recognition in 1951. In 1954 a unanimous vote to recognize the group was passed in the House of Assembly. Since then those schools have received from the province per capita grants on the same basis as other denominations. Negotiations have been ongoing since at least 1971 between the two levels of government for entrenchment.

The Pentecostal population is now about 6.6 per cent of the total.

Over the past two years efforts have been increased.

Debate on the resolution is not expected to take long with speedy pas-

of denominational system

By DEANA STOKES-SULLIVAN
Of The Evening Telegram

Provincial Education Minister Loyola Hearn disputes the Newfoundland Teachers' Association's claim that the denominational education system in the province is costing the provincial government an extra \$77 million a year.

At a news conference Friday at Confederation Building, Mr. Hearn said the "added cost of the denominational system" is around \$10 million a year and that can be reduced to \$5 million.

Responding to criticism of the system in a NTA brief presented to the provincial government in June, he said it's difficult to understand how the NTA arrived at the \$77-million figure. Even under a complete public school system, the province because of its geography and population would require at least 20 school boards, Mr. Hearn said. Because these boards would be larger, costs for administrative and personnel support services would increase and Mr. Hearn said he would estimate that savings in administration costs would not exceed \$7 million.

All other costs, including teachers' salaries, school supplies, operation and maintenance, student transportation and school construction are related more to numbers of students in the province than to denominational affiliation, Mr. Hearn said.

"Savings in these areas would be marginal and probably not exceed \$3 million," he said.

BRIEF OVERESTIMATES

The NTA brief "overestimates the extent of duplication in the school system," said Mr. Hearn. The brief is correct, he said, in stating that there are 165 schools with 100 or less students and the NTA estimate that 33 of these could be eliminated "appears reasonable."

However, he said, if that target could be achieved the province might save \$1 million in direct teachers' salaries, but would spend almost half that amount in additional busing costs.

Mr. Hearn said there are some opportunities for improving both the efficiency of the existing system and the quality of educational services provided.

"The number of school boards can be reduced," he said. "This further consolidation would improve administrative and program support in the affected school districts and reduce administrative costs."

Denominational school boards can co-operate on the operation of schools serving small student populations, he said, either to operate joint service schools or simply not to duplicate school services in low population areas.

Mr. Hearn said many school boards are already co-operating on a regional basis for student transportation and the delivery of specialized services such as speech pathology, itinerant teachers for the visually and hearing impaired, educational psychologists and other low-incidence programs to children with special needs.

DISCUSSION

The Department of Education has begun discussions with the denominational education councils and school boards on these matters, said Mr. Hearn.

"We are confident that co-operative measures will be taken to improve the administration of existing programs and that these efforts will enable new initiatives to further improve the quality of education for our youth."

Mr. Hearn said while he endorses the general premise of the NTA brief that changes are desirable and possible to improve learning opportunities for students, he doesn't agree with the figures the NTA has included in its brief to indicate that the existing system is costing a total of \$77 million annually.

The NTA has referred to the province's denominational education system as being the most inefficient and wasteful of any system in Canada.

The NTA recommended that a royal commission be established to look at the system, but Mr. Hearn said Friday he feels it would be "irresponsible" for his department to set up a royal commission when it is aware of what the problems are in the system and how they can be resolved.

He said if the department finds that it is wrong about the problems and solutions then it would consider a study or perhaps, a royal commission.

More on Page 3

Hearn defends education system

By CATHY FINN
Of The Evening Telegram

Detractors of the province's denominational education system would be wrong to think the province could act unilaterally to abolish the system or to divert public funds to support secular education, says provincial education minister Loyola Hearn.

The minister held a news conference at Confederation Building Friday to respond to criticism of the system by the Newfoundland Teachers' Association. In its brief Exploring New Pathways, presented to government in June, the association called the denominational system inefficient and wasteful.

It claims the system wastes one in every \$5 of taxpayers' money spent on it.

The tenor of the news conference was to play up the benefits of denominational education and suggest means of improving its efficiency. Mr. Hearn's defense included references to enshrined rights to operate denominational systems.

While constitutional protection for denominational education is entrenched in the Canadian constitution, protection given to denominational schools in Newfoundland differs from that provided for other provinces. Mr. Hearn said more denominations acquired rights in

Newfoundland than in other provinces "simply because all major denominations were involved in the operation of schools at the time of Newfoundland's entry into Confederation".

FUNDING NON-DISCRIMINATORY

He pointed out the government here is required to fund denominational schools on a non-discriminatory basis; in other provinces, funding is optional. A third important difference, he said, is unlike other provinces, Newfoundland did not have a public school system at the time of Confederation and hasn't established one since.

"This is undoubtedly because of the general recognition the establishment of another school system would further fragment already small education units, and place an exorbitant strain on the limited resources of the province," Mr. Hearn said.

He addressed what has come to be referred to as the "duplication of services" resulting from denominational education. The minister maintained government has worked with the various denominations to reduce such duplication and argued the approach has actually meant significant improvements:

- amalgamation of the major Protestant denominations to form an integrated school system;

- reduction of the number of school boards from about 300 to 35, the number

of schools from more than 1,200 to 600;

- the operation in several communities of joint service schools by the Roman Catholic and integrated boards.

As well, all systems now follow a common curriculum, common graduation requirements for students and common teacher certification standards set by the province. Schools are also required to provide education on a non-discriminatory basis for all registered students — they can refuse registration only if there is a "school of the students' denominational affiliation reasonably available to them."

The minister's defense did not end there. He noted parents are able to request exclusion of their children from religious instruction — schools must comply with the request. All provincial teachers belong to the same professional association, are members of the same bargaining unit and are protected by a common collective agreement, he added.

"The changes resulting from this approach have considerably reduced administrative inefficiencies, vastly improved educational standards and student achievement, and substantially reduced costs from the levels which would have been required if co-operation among the denominational systems had not been established," he said.

Breen re-elected as chairman of Roman Catholic school board

Kevin Breen was re-elected chairman of the Roman Catholic School Board for St. John's at the board's annual general meeting Wednesday evening.

The board enters its second year since being elected last November with virtually the same executive as last year, re-electing Len Squires as vice-chairman, Leslie Bruce as secretary, and five of the six remaining executive members.

The one change to the six was Father Kevin McKenna, who joins Jack Parsons, Michael Keefe, Sister Nolasco Mulcahy, Paul Adams and Paul Stapleton, who were re-elected to the executive. Father McKenna was elected to replace Ray Halley, who did not seek re-election, but later accepted an appointment as chairman of the Planning and Priorities committee.

Board members discussed progress made to implement Plan 90, a document outlining proposals for the reorganization of schools in its district. The four-year plan calls for a co-educational system to be introduced at



BREEN

Holy Heart, Brother Rice and Gonzaga high schools, and at Presentation, Holy Cross, St. Patrick's Boys and St. Patrick's Girls junior high schools. It also recommends three new high schools be built in the next four years, along with extensions to four other high schools.

'AMICABLE, CO-OPERATIVE'

Vice-chairman Len Squires reported the first of three public meetings was held in Mount Pearl during October, which he described as amicable, co-operative and supportive of the plan. He said the Goulds parish has offered to donate land for the building of the high school to allow students in Grades 9-12, currently at St. Kevin's All-Grade school, to attend high school, leaving St. Kevin's for use by grades K-8. He said two further meetings, aimed at winning grass-roots approval of Plan 90, will be held within the next week in Torbay and Manuels.

According to Mr. Squires, the concept of a co-educational system has met with the approval of administrators and the public for junior and senior high schools. But he said serious logistical problems will exist unless further consideration be made before introducing the system to St. Patrick's boys and girls schools.

Mr. Breen announced the proposed extension to St. Matthew's School re-

quires a capital outlay of \$319,000, but the Catholic Education Council (CEC), while giving permission to borrow, gave no firm commitment for repayment to the board. After discussion it was agreed to make arrangements to borrow the required funds, in order to complete the board's commitment, and to make a stronger case to the CEC for eventual repayment.

The denominational education system was raised by Sister Mulcahy, who voiced her concerns only one side — the negative one — is presented in the news media. She said the public at large appears to remain very much in favor of the system, guaranteed in the Canadian Constitution, and suggested a committee be struck to put forward a positive message to the public in a constructive manner.

It was agreed to publish and distribute a newsletter including information about the Catholic school system on a quarterly basis.

On public exams, Geraldine Roe, associate superintendent of curriculum, reported good results with an 86 per cent passing rate. She said five students were awarded Electoral District scholarships, with ten students receiving Centenary scholarships. Fifty-five Centenary scholarships are awarded annually by the provincial government.

Hearn to respond to attacks ¹⁰⁰⁰⁻¹⁰⁰⁰ 25 Oct 86

Education Minister Loyola Hearn says he will respond publicly next Friday to recent attacks on the province's denominational education system and show the case of the critics has been blown out of proportion.



HEARN

The latest shot at the system came Thursday from CBC Television's current affairs program On Camera. The program commissioned a province-wide survey which suggests about 55 per cent of Newfoundlanders are in favor of changing over to a universal public school system.

Earlier this year, the Newfoundland Teachers Association submitted its

brief Exploring New Pathways to the government, claiming, without figures to prove it, the denominational system wastes one in every \$5 of taxpayers money spent on it.

The more recently published report by the Royal Commission on Employment and Unemployment also refers to alleged inefficiencies in the system, but it, too, fails to provide hard figures.

Mr. Hearn declined comment on the CBC survey when contacted Friday. He said he did not want to jump the gun on his reply to the teachers association, which went into the mail this week.

But he left little doubt he will come out in defence of the denominational system.

He said he has no arguments with the figures of the survey but is convinced a large portion of public discontent with

the system is based on the teachers association's claim millions of tax dollars are being wasted. This, he said, is simply not the case, and his department has the figures to prove it.

Mr. Hearn will also take issue with those who argue the province should have a public system. "Our system is completely public," he said. "No children are turned away."

But if there are parents who would prefer to send their children to a public school system, there is nothing to stop them from starting one, he added.

He acknowledged denominational school boards must do more to allow parents of all denominations have a say in the education of their children, but he dismissed claims the system tramples human rights as "grossly exaggerated."

School councils react to survey

By AZZO REZORI

Of The Evening Telegram

The province's three denominational education councils recovered quickly Friday from a CBC survey aired Thursday night, which suggests Newfoundlanders are willing to discuss change.

The survey's most dramatic finding is about 55 per cent of the public supports replacing the denominational system with a public system.

But church leaders and officials of the denominational councils were quick to shift the focus to the survey's more positive findings.

More than 90 per cent of respondents gave the school system a passing grade. Another 72 per cent agreed teaching religion in school gives a better overall education. Only 7 per cent criticized religious aspects of the system.

On the other hand, 75 per cent agreed with the statements the system wastes money through duplication of facilities;

69 per cent said boards should be fully elected; another 62 per cent believe the system is unfair to families which do not belong to one of its religions.

St. John's Roman Catholic archbishop, Rev. Alphonsus Penny, said the system should feel "highly complimented" by the survey, but he took issue with the "lie" it wastes money.

The charge of waste was made earlier this year in a discussion paper by the Newfoundland Teachers Association, but the association produced nothing more than a guess to back its statement, he said.

Rev. Penny also doesn't accept the denominational system is "church-dominated." The church is the people, he said, and has a right to be present in schools.

Rev. Penny insisted the denominational system is not cast in iron and is, in fact, changing all the time. Still, he does not see the day when the Roman Catholic education council will merge with the other two councils to form one

fully integrated system.

This is the goal of Anglican bishop Rev. Martin Mate, whose denomination is a member of the Integrated Education Council.

Rev. Mate said he is "tormented and disturbed" when he sees children in the same community running off to schools of different denominations. His answer to those who want a public school system is a fully integrated one with universal access on one hand and the religious dimension in education on the other.

There are three denominational education councils in Newfoundland — the Roman Catholic, Pentecostal and Integrated. Rev. Mate said the councils risk playing into the hands of their critics if they insist too much on running separate systems.

In a joint reply to the CBC survey, the three councils say the survey illustrates the need "to communicate more effectively."

Student enrolment down: report

Telegram 1 Nov. 1986

Student enrolment from Kindergarten to Grade 12 in Newfoundland schools has dropped by more than 15,000 from 1976-77 to 1985-86, according to a report on trends in education released Friday by Education Minister Loyola Hearn.

The report contains figures showing an enrolment of 142,332 students in the province's schools this year, compared with 157,682 in 1976-77.

But, the birth rate in the province has also been declining substantially over the years, from 12,767 in 1976-77 to 9,602 for 1985-86.

The number of children enrolled in Kindergarten has dropped from 12,782 in 1976-77 to 9,375 for 1985-86.

The number of graduates has increased from 5,522 in 1976-77 to 7,112 in 1984-85.

The Department of Education is predicting that Kindergarten enrolments will continue a downward trend and reach about 7,700 by 1995 while the number of primary students in the province's schools will decline on an average of 1.64 per cent per year. It is predicted that the number of elementary students will decline on average by 2.30 per cent each year and the number of junior high students will drop by 2.36 per cent annually.

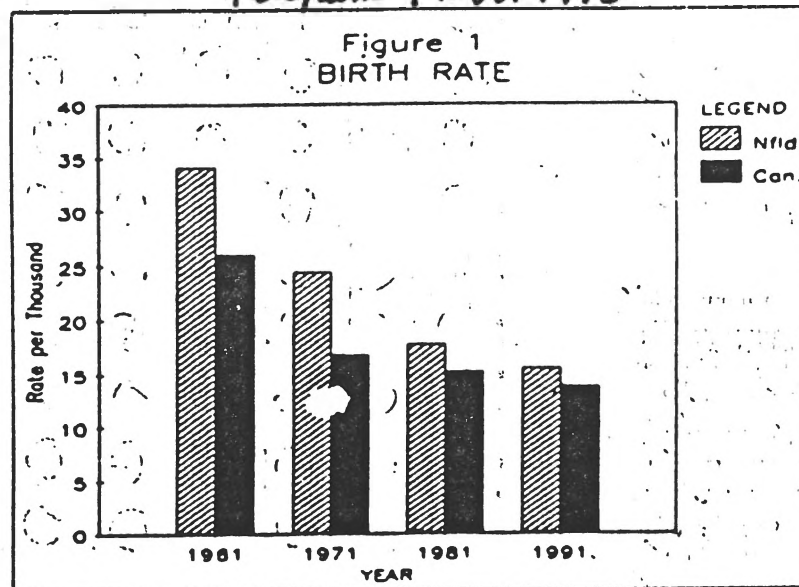
IMMERSION INCREASE

The report says there will be minor variations in senior high enrolment, but significant decreases will occur during the 1990s. The number of senior high students is predicted to decline on average by 1.93 per cent annually and the number of students in special education programs will increase to 11,000 by 1995.

The report predicts the number of students in French Immersion programs will increase on an average by 25 per cent to 30 per cent per year for at least the next five years and the number of students graduating from high school will continue to increase for several years and then decline.

The total enrolment for the province is expected to continue declining annually as well.

The number of births in the province is also expected to continue to decrease in the future.



This graph included in a Department of Education report on trends in education in Newfoundland shows birth rates for Newfoundland and all of Canada from 1961 to 1981 and what the department is projecting for 1991. In 1961 the rate of births in the province was 34.1 per 1,000 population and in 1984 the rate dropped to 15.7. In 1991 the rate is expected to drop to 14.2. Student enrolment in the province's schools has been declining significantly during the past several

The report says in 1961 the rate of births per 1,000 population was 34.1 and since then the rate dropped to an estimated 15.7 in 1984. By 1991 the rate is projected to drop even further to 14.2.

The number of families continues to increase and is expected to reach 145,000 in 1991 and then decline by the mid 1990s. It is projected that the average number of children in each family in 1991 will be 1.62. There are now almost 140,000 families in the province and the average number of children per family is almost two.

years, the dropping birth rate being the main reason for the decline. Enrolment this year in the province's schools is at 142,332, more than 15,000 less than the 157,682 figure in 1976-77. The number of children enrolled in Kindergarten has dropped to 9,375 for 1985-86 from 12,782 in 1976-77 and by 1995, the department is projecting a further drop to 7,700 Kindergarten students being enrolled in schools.

vince and the average number of children per family is almost two.

The Department of Education is planning to release two other reports, one this fall and the other during the first quarter of 1987. The second paper will focus on the future demand for teachers and will provide forecasts of demands in specialized areas and in geographic regions while the third will deal with economic trends and fiscal projections for various educational components.

Teachers' Association says more education money needed, not less

ARTICLE 10 — Disciplinary Action

10.01 — Subject to 12.01 (b), no teacher shall be suspended, dismissed or otherwise disciplined except for just cause.

10.02 — Any teacher who is suspended or dismissed shall be provided written notification within five (5) calendar days of any oral notification. Such written notification shall state the precise reason(s) for the suspension or dismissal and no reasons other than those stated in that notice may subsequently be advanced against the teacher in that particular disciplinary action.

10.03 — A copy of any document placed on a teacher's personal file, which might at any time be used against a teacher in any case of suspension, dismissal or disciplinary action, shall be supplied concurrently to the teacher. Before any such document is entered in the teacher's personal file, it shall be signed by the teacher for the sole purpose of certifying that it has been examined. If the teacher refuses to sign, the document shall be entered in the personal file with the notation that the teacher has refused to sign. No occurrence or event, which is not documented in the teacher's personal file within ten (10) calendar days of the discovery of the incident, except a culminating occurrence or event, shall be used against the teacher in any case of suspension, dismissal or other disciplinary action. Proper security for these files shall be maintained.

10.04 — Any document which might at any time be used against a teacher in any case of suspension, dismissal or disciplinary action shall be removed from the personal file and destroyed after the expiration of two (2) years provided there has not been a recurrence of a similar incident during that time, in which case it shall be removed two (2) years after the recurrence.

10.05 — The personal file of a teacher may be inspected by the teacher at any reasonable time and if so desired, the teacher may be accompanied by a representative of the Association.

*Collective Agreement.
NIA - School Boards - Treasury Board*

ARTICLE 12 — Termination of Contracts

12.01 — By the School Board — A contract of employment made between a School Board and a teacher may only be terminated:

(a) by giving three (3) months' notice in writing by the School Board (or pay in lieu of notice) if the contract is to be terminated during the school year and two (2) months' notice in writing (or pay in lieu of notice), if it is to be terminated at the end of the school year, provided an adequate reason for termination is stated by the School Board in writing and the contract is a continuous one;

(b) by giving three (3) months' notice in writing by the School Board (or pay in lieu of notice), if the contract is to be terminated during the school year and two (2) months' notice in writing (or pay in lieu of notice) if it is to be terminated at the end of the school year and the contract is a probationary one. When a School Board terminates the contract of a teacher who is on a probationary contract, the teacher shall be given opportunity to discuss the reason with the Superintendent. The termination of a probationary contract for reasons of incompetency or unsuitability will not be subject to the grievance procedure. However, a probationary teacher shall have the right to grieve as to whether or not the applicable notice (or pay in lieu of notice) was given;

(c) with thirty (30) calendar days' notice in writing by the School Board (or pay in lieu of notice) when the teacher is incompetent;

(d) without notice, by the School Board, when the certificate of grade or licence of the teacher has been suspended, cancelled, or is no longer recognized under the regulations;

(e) without notice, by the School Board, where there is gross misconduct, insubordination or neglect of duty on the part of the teacher, or any similar just cause;

(f) without notice, by the School Board, when the teacher refuses to undergo a medical examination in accordance with the provisions of paragraph (f) of Section 13 of the Schools Act, R.S.N., 1970.

12.02 — By a Teacher — A continuous or probationary contract of employment made between a teacher and a School Board may be terminated by the teacher by giving three (3) months' notice in writing to the School Board if the contract is to be terminated during the school year and two (2) months' notice in writing if it is to be terminated at the end of the school year.

12.03 — Notwithstanding Clauses 12.01 and 12.02, the parties to this Agreement recognize that any contract may be terminated at any time by mutual agreement of the teacher and the School Board.

Denominational system still good topic for lively debate

Almost 110 years after it was first instituted, Newfoundland's denominational education system is still a topic of lively public debate. That fact was amply proven Tuesday night as an audience of approximately 120 people gathered in a Memorial University lecture theatre for what was billed as a public forum on denominational education.

The gathering attracted representatives of most major participants in the province's education system, but while predictable differences of opinion were present on some issues the debate produced almost unanimous agreement that some significant changes are necessary.

The background to the existing situation in the Newfoundland education system was provided by the first of four panelists to address the meeting. MUN Education professor Dr. Phil Warren told those in attendance that despite the continuing debate "the denominational system has in many ways served the province well" and it continues to enjoy the support of most Newfoundlanders.

KEY IS CO-OPERATION

In light of that, fact Dr. Warren suggested the key to improving the system lies not in the abandonment of its basic principles but rather in increased co-operation and negotiation within the existing denominational framework.

Citing a number of examples where denominations have already instituted arrangements to share staff and facilities for the common good, he argued further such accommodations may well hold the solution to continuing problems of shortages in educational funding, particularly in some rural areas.

The theme of inter-denominational co-operation was amplified by the second speaker to address the forum, Roman Catholic School Board Chairman Kevin Breen. Although he stated at the outset he was speaking



The Evening Telegram

Lynn Byrnes and Rex Gibbons listen to points raised during a debate on denominational school boards Tuesday at the S.J. Carew building.

as an individual and not as a representative of his Board, Mr. Breen made it clear that there is significant agreement within the Roman Catholic system for the concept of increased co-operation in the provision of educational services.

SUPPORTS REVIEW

Observing that "If you believe in a system and its integrity then there is no reason not to study it" Mr. Breen said he was in total support of proposals to review the existing system with a view to identifying further cases where inter-denominational co-operation can improve financial efficiency.

A similar point of view was ex-

pressed by the third panelist, Avalon Consolidated School Board Chairman Rex Gibbons. Like his counterpart from the Roman Catholic Board, Mr. Gibbons was quick to point out that he was speaking as an individual rather than as a spokesman for the Avalon Consolidated Board. But having made that point, he too indicated there is considerable support within his organization for efforts to increase efficiency by increasing co-operation between boards.

Frankly commenting that there are many examples of "pitiful waste" arising from the failure of the denominations to co-ordinate education systems in rural areas, Mr. Gibbons said in his view "In cases where there is a conflict between the denominational system and the provision of quality education to students, the denominational concerns must come second."

DISCRIMINATION?

One aspect of denominational education which has come in for considerable public debate of late is the question of religious discrimination based on the denominational nature of the system. This controversy was the major concern of the final panelist to address the meeting, former Newfoundland and Labrador Human Rights Association President Lynn Byrnes.

Pointing to such concerns as the rights of school boards to hire and fire on the basis of religion and the fact that persons seeking to serve on school boards must be affiliated with the particular denomination concerned, Ms. Byrnes said the existing system "is based on some very blatantly discriminatory policies which we feel must be changed." While acknowledging that these rights are enshrined in legislation, Ms. Byrnes contended "If these legal rights allow such cut and dried examples of religious discrimination then the legal rights are wrong."

While the opinions of both panelists and audience participants appeared split on the issue, the majority of both groups appeared to accept earlier suggestions by other panelists that the issue should be resolved by negotiation rather than by reference to the courts as has been the case to date.

Held under the sponsorship of Me-

Need for fewer teachers dangerous assumption

It is erroneous and dangerous thinking to assume declining enrolments in provincial schools will result in the need for fewer teachers, says the Newfoundland and Labrador School Trustees' Association (NLSTA).

The association said Tuesday it is concerned that about 130 teacher units are scheduled to be dropped for the 1987-88 school year because of declining enrolments.

Dr. Myrle Vokey, executive director of the NLSTA, said school boards are expected, and are striving against difficult odds, to maintain their present level of services to students. Boards are also under pressure to expand on other services that are severely understaffed, services which demand more guidance counsellors and specialists like educational therapists, speech pathologists, audiologists and library and media services.

"The NLSTA realizes that the addition of additional human resources to our school personnel is an expensive undertaking," Dr. Vokey said. "However, the anticipated reduction in enrolments in the coming school year provides an excellent opportunity to phase

the "stifling dilemma" facing the province's school boards.

He noted that education has been the subject of several reports presented in recent months, including Building On Strengths: the Royal Commission Report on Employment and Unemployment, the School Board Boundaries Study for Integrated School Boards, a report on the restructuring of the junior high school and the government's Small Schools Study Report.

"These reports provide clear direction for the improvement of quality education for our students. However, to cut teacher allocations at this time will result in having the direction and thrust of these reports considerably weakened," Dr. Vokey said. "Reducing teacher allocations is diametrically opposed to what is needed in order to begin the directions contained in the government's own commissioned report, Building On Strengths."

It is dangerous, he added, to think the loss of a few students from a number of classrooms in the province will mean fewer teachers are needed. Based upon the needs of students as identified in the previously mentioned reports, he said, it can be argued the com-

Moko will do search *Challenging & Denominational* *US. publi - Challenge &* *- 17*

Planned realignment of school boards unconstitutional

MONTREAL (CP) — Quebec Superior Court has ruled unconstitutional the provincial government's far-reaching law to realign the province's school system along linguistic rather than religious lines.

In a decision Tuesday, Mr. Justice Andre Brossard ruled that the law, passed last December, was beyond the powers of the national assembly and "therefore null and void."

The law, challenged by the Quebec Association of Protestant School Boards, the Montreal Catholic School Commission and two Laval commissions, would have abolished most denominational boards in favor of French- or English-language school commissions.

The boards contended that the law — Bill 3 — violated rights guaranteed to Protestants and Roman Catholics by Section 93 of the British North America Act.

Brossard also granted the boards an injunction against application of Bill 3, a redrafting of earlier legislation that had been fiercely attacked by the school boards and the Opposition Liberals.

The Montreal Catholic School Board, the largest school commission in Quebec, hailed Brossard's decision, saying it could not "but be pleased with the ruling."

Education Minister Francois Gendron refused comment until he had studied the judgment.

The ruling leaves untouched controversial provisions of Bill 29 — passed June 4 — which excludes religious minorities from voting in elections for four denominational

school boards in Montreal and Quebec City.

Those provisions were part of an amendment to the Education Act not covered by the school boards' challenge because they were passed so recently, said Allan Hilton, a lawyer for the Quebec Association of Protestant School Boards.

"This means that in denominational school board elections ... Jews and other religious minorities are not allowed to vote," said Hilton.

Bill 29 was an attempt to make Bill 3 conform to a Supreme Court of Canada ruling last year that declared unconstitutional limitations on the tax powers of denominational boards. The Supreme Court had said that a denominational board must be controlled by people of the same religion.

Dr. John Simms, president of the Quebec Association of Protestant School Boards, called Brossard's ruling "a victory for democracy and for parents."

Alliance Quebec, the province's English-rights lobby group, which supported the secular intent of the law as sensible in "the modern-day context," said it urged the government earlier to refer the legislation to the courts for a ruling.

"The government chose not to take that advice and is now taking the consequence of that decision," said Alliance president Michael Goldbloom.

Earlier this month, the Quebec Court of Appeal struck down a law enabling Quebec to opt out of provisions of the Constitution.

Quebec, talks on c

MONTREAL (CP) — Prime Minister Mulroney said Tuesday the federal and Quebec governments will open ministerial talks this week at securing the province's endorsement of the Constitution.

Emerging from an 80-minute meeting with Quebec Premier Rene Levesque at a hotel near Mirabel, Mulroney told reporters that ministers and both governments will hold preliminary talks on constitutional reform at an unspecified time in the fall.

Both leaders described their meeting as a success but stressed that talks on Quebec's proposed sweeping constitutional changes will continue into next year.

Levesque is expected to retire in October. Quebecois members have chosen his successor in a provincewide secret ballot.

Mulroney, who flew to Mirabel from Ottawa on a government Challenger jet, said he found the meeting useful despite Levesque's resignation last Thursday.

"Mr. Levesque is and remains the Premier of Quebec," he said. "I think Mr. Levesque's resignation (constitutional reform) isn't a question solved by the autumn."

SETUP AGENDA

At a separate news conference, Levesque said the process will take some time, adding that

Magazine c ran business

BONN (Reuter) — Nazi war criminal Josef Mengele ran a business under his own name in Buenos Aires in the 1950s after enlisting the West German embassy's help in obtaining his birth certificate from home, Stern magazine said Tuesday.

Mengele got the capital for his chemical company, Fadofarm, from

the prosperous family in Bavaria, said in an advertisement for its next edition available to readers of Stern magazine. Mengele, known as the Angel of Death, was at the Auschwitz concentration camp, visited in March 1945, identified by a

Another test for charter

OTTAWA (CP) — Another classic Charter of Rights case goes before the Supreme Court of Canada today as unions in Alberta contend the "freedom of association" guaranteed in the Constitution includes the right to strike.

LET'S

Verge hopes for big turnout in school board elections

JAN 25 1983

Education Minister Lynn Verge is hoping changes in the holding of school board elections combined with a planned intensive publicity campaign will result in a high turnout in both candidates and voters when the next elections are held in November.

The last time province-wide school board elections were held was in May, 1982, at which time there were 235 board seats up for grabs.

However, one-third of the seats did not attract even one nominee, and another one-third were filled by acclamation as there was only one candidate for each position. While there was some competition for the other positions, voter turnout was very low.

Since then there have been byelections from time to time but with few candidates and a low voter turnout. Many of the byelections have been won by acclamation.

Verge said Wednesday she doesn't feel the situation is due to a lack of interest as she believes parents are very interested in education and what happens in the school.

She said she believes the reason for the lack of participation in school board elections is basic-

ly because people don't fully realize the vital role the school board plays in the education system and are not always aware of the elections being held.

Verge said the corrective action has to include much more publicity about the vital role of the school boards and their power and responsibilities, and more public information being provided about the elections.

The minister said the first step taken to try and improve the situation was the legislation, in the form of an amendment to The Schools Act, which was passed by the House of Assembly shortly before Christmas.

The main changes were increasing the required proportion of elected school board members, as opposed to those appointed, from one-third to two-thirds, and provision for the elections to be held on the same day as municipal elections in the province.

Verge feels these changes will increase participation in school board elections dramatically.

She said by increasing the number of board members to be elected, more people will come to realize the importance of serving on the boards.

The next school board

elections will be held in conjunction with the province-wide municipal elections scheduled for Nov. 22 of this year.

Verge said officials of her department and the department of municipal affairs, together with the municipalities are already working on details with regard to such things as sharing of voting facilities and common voting hours.

At the same time, officials of the education department, the school boards, and the Denominational Education Committees are looking at the school board election rules and regulations to see what changes or modifications are needed for the new system.

Verge said municipal elections generally have a large turnout and it is hoped that will spill over to the school board elections, particularly when voters will be able to cast ballots in both elections in the same building.

Verge said people are beginning to find out that school boards manage large amounts of public funds, employ teachers and support workers, levy taxes through their school tax authorities and generally make the most important decisions affecting the day-to-day

operations of schools.

School boards have a very important role to play, she said, so it is important for people to participate by becoming candidates as well as by getting out to vote in these elections.

In areas where there is no municipal election, the school board election will proceed as usual, said Verge, but she feels most of the areas where the bulk of the population is located will be having municipal elections.

Mayor proclaims special day

Grand Falls Mayor Paul Hennessey signed a proclamation Thursday declaring Feb. 2 Home Energy Awareness Day in the town.

Hennessey said the town, in co-operation with the federal and provincial departments of energy, will be organizing displays at the Exploits Valley Mall and workshops on insulation, moisture control and heating systems during the day.

There will also be prizes awarded for a poster contest on energy consciousness which was organized for children in elementary schools in the town.

System is not the issue, just some practices, says rights group

The Newfoundland and Labrador Human Rights Association says it's not opposed to the province's denominational education system but takes issue with a number of "discriminatory" practices within the system.

The association's executive called an early afternoon news conference Tuesday to dispel impressions it claims were left by two recent newspaper articles that it objects to the entire denominational school system.

Association Executive Director Marian Atkinson said the association has already gone on record asking for at least four changes to the system.

It wants school board elections to be free and open contests, "with no religious qualifications whatsoever," she said.

Teachers should be hired on the basis of merit, not religion.

Parents' wishes should be given first

priority in school entrance requirements.

Finally, registration for special programs should be held well in advance to ensure ample space and funding.

The four proposed changes were part of more than 70 recommendations on a variety of human rights issues contained in a report the association submitted to Justice Minister Lynn Verge in late October.

Atkinson said the association has agreed with Verge that its recommendations regarding the educational system require more research to determine exactly what the public wants.

A survey conducted in 1981 suggested 55 per cent of Newfoundland residents were in favor of an alternate school system, but it remains to be seen if public feelings are still the same.

Still, Atkinson stressed if the denominational school system con-

tinues to maintain current discriminatory practices, her association will advocate the establishment of an alternate or public system.

Such a system would not replace the existing one but would co-exist with it, she said.

"It would give those parents and children who are discriminated against under the present system the opportunity of participating in a system which is more conducive to the type of education parents feel their children should have," she said.

The association is currently investigating the possibility of challenging those parts of the federal constitution which protect the province's denominational system.

Bert Riggs, the association's past president, said before such a constitutional challenge can be launched, a great deal of expensive legal research would have to be done to which the association has not yet committed itself.

In reply to the question whether the province could realistically afford a public school system, Atkinson said if there is public support for such a system, funds would have to be found.

It would require another survey to test the public's current views, she said, and at this point, there are no immediate plans for one.

Riggs said the association would prefer an outside group such as Memorial University's political science department to conduct the survey "but if the worst comes to the worst, we would consider doing it."

In a news release distributed during the briefing, the association states it doesn't feel its four proposed changes would automatically lead to the destruction of the denominational education system.

When asked whether the alleged discriminatory practices behind the recommendations could be considered vital components of the denominational system, she replied: "That argument could be made, but these are the things we would have to explore."

Metro board, union sign new agreement

The St. John's Metropolitan Area Board Tuesday signed a collective agreement with Local 2306 of the Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE), representing its approximately 20 administrative employees.

Jim Fagan, board member and finance committee chairman, said in an interview the new two-year contract will give the employees a four per cent salary increase in 1986 and a three-and-a-half per cent increase in 1987.

The employees' current collective agreement expires Dec. 31.

Meanwhile, Fagan said four other board employees who have been doing maintenance work in the Shea Heights, Kilbride and East Meadows areas, which become part of St. John's in January, are being transferred from the board to the city.

Fagan said the Municipalities Act provides that when annexation occurs, staff may be transferred from one municipality to another in this manner.

The maintenance staff, Fagan said, is familiar with maintaining water and sewer systems, handling water main breaks and other work in the areas being annexed to the city's boundaries.

He said more transfers may be made from the board to the city later but so far, that hasn't been decided.

Adult education classes cancelled

A series of adult education classes scheduled to begin tonight at the Beth-El Synagogue, Elizabeth Avenue have been cancelled.

The classes, offered by Rabbi Dr. Ephraim Eliezri, are now set to begin early in the new year at a time to be announced. For more information call Rabbi Eliezri at 754-2608.

GIVE TIME

For a very personal Christmas present, give gift certificates redeemable for a home-cooked meal, baby-sitting, lawn-mowing or other household tasks.

Board rejects application for games arcade

An application from Family Fun Centre for a games arcade in a building at the intersection of Linegar Avenue and Warford Road in Shea Heights, has been rejected by the St. John's Metropolitan Area Board.

Board Planner Stephen Jewczyk said in an interview the board decided not to allow the application because of concerns expressed by residents about the close proximity of the site to St. John Bosco School and possible problems in the community as a result of the arcade.

A petition signed by 372 residents of Shea Heights and 39 from the community of Blackhead opposing the applica-



Seagram's

FIVE STAR

Canada's favourite.

Something Special

- ★ a gift of really "good taste".
- ★ business gifts or staff bonuses.
- ★ for family, friends and associates.
- ★ certain-to-please, personal choices in:
 - time, occasion and companions,
 - three fine specialty restaurants,
 - most popular selections.



① Opposes denominational education

Rights association plans to challenge constitution

The Newfoundland and Labrador Human Rights Association is preparing to challenge the section of Canada's constitution which protects the province's denominational education system.

Marion Atkinson, the association's executive director, said Monday legal preparations are under way and the association will soon start looking for money, which could include tapping into a \$9 million federal fund set up specifically to help finance constitutional challenges.

② Atkinson said the provincial government has already made clear it doesn't want to get involved. The message from Justice Minister Lynn Verge, she said, is that it doesn't want to commit suicide.

③ But the association believes fears of a voter backlash to changes in the system are unfounded. Atkinson said a survey conducted before the school board elections last month showed there is more demand for change than the government is willing to concede.

"The mood is here, and the time is right," she said.

The November elections were preceded by strong public reaction to a tightening of restrictions which prevented candidates from running for

boards unless they were of the specific school system's denomination.

The restriction itself came in reply to a change in policy which allowed two thirds of the members of each board to be elected — a change from only one third before.

"If the government wants the denominational system, fine," Atkinson said. "But they should at least give us an alternative."

The association argues government should either set up public school systems as in other provinces or eliminate denominational restrictions which force students and parents to put up with religious ideas to which they don't subscribe.

Most recently, the association issued a news release in which it pointed out that Newfoundland's education system violates the International Declaration of Human Rights.

According to the document, education is supposed to strengthen respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, the association says. But "here in Newfoundland, we allow a school system which discriminates on religious grounds by segregating students by religious belief."

The declaration also stipulates that parents have the right to choose the kind

of education given their children.

In Newfoundland, the association argues, parents have no choice. Moreover, unless they belong to one of the seven officially designated denominations (Roman Catholic, United, Anglican, Salvation Army, Presbyterian, Seventh Day Adventist and Pentecostal), they cannot exercise the right to serve as school board trustees.

The association says it urges the provincial and federal governments to "end these discriminatory practices."

"This action would demonstrate to the rest of the world that Canada's signature on the universal declaration (of human rights) is a commitment to change and not a hollow gesture," the association says.

Atkinson said the association has no illusions that it faces a hard battle with government over the issue.

It will be breaking new ground with its challenge of the federal constitution, she said, but "if we do our homework right, they will have to take us seriously."

She said she has a child who will be entering school three years from now and hopes the matter will be solved by then.

Human rights commission may get new full-time executive director

The province's human rights commission may soon have a full-time executive director after having made do with a part-time one for more than a year.

John Cummings, associate deputy minister of justice, said Monday the job has been advertised and an appointment should follow some time early next year.

The search for a new director comes in the midst of a review of the commission itself and the legislation under which it operates — the Newfoundland Human Rights Code.

The commission is responsible for advising government on human rights policies, dealing with specific complaints and educating the public about human rights issues.

Cummings said a recently established review committee will look at the structure of the commission itself and comb through the code to see where its clauses are "a bit too narrow and behind the times."

There was no specific event which set the review in motion, he said. "We realized it was time for a review. A lot has happened in human rights over the years."

④ But the executive director of the Newfoundland and Labrador Human Rights Association claims if anything got the review off the ground, it was the association's recent report on human rights in the province which contained 82 recommendations for change.

Marion Atkins, who will be the association's representative on the review committee, said the report has been getting a "decent" reception from ministry of justice officials.

Among its recommendations were the appointments of the new commission and a full-time executive director. Both have been followed up, she said.

The review committee, which has yet to meet, is expected to file a report by next May.

Atkinson said that may not leave much time but pointed out "our report

has already done most of the work."

If matters proceed as they should, the province should have an updated human rights code by next summer, she said.

Newfoundland's code may not be the worst in the country, she said, but it's a far cry from ranking with the likes of Quebec's.

Quebec's human rights legislation, for example, takes precedence over most other legislation, she said. The opposite holds in Newfoundland.

There are also serious problems with such areas as marital status, sexual orientation, part-time employment and mandatory retirement, she said.

And there is the entire question of the province's denominational school system the association has been trying to take on for some time.

Atkinson described it as "an awful bucket of worms" the association is prepared to challenge all the way in federal courts.


```
*-----*
*
* REQUESTED      01INFGL13.1625      45 DOCUMENTS
*
* USER ID       Info Sales
* USER ACCOUNT  INFGL/INF05
* QUERY         #1
*
*-----*
```

```
*-----*
* NUMBER OF SAVED QUERY SETS 2
* SET #1      68  DENOMINATION* ANDP SCHOOL<S> AND LEGISLAT* OR CONSTITUTION*
*              OR APPEAL<S> OR INJUNCTION<S> OR COURT<S> OR SUIT<S> AND NEW
*              S IN CLASS
* SET #2      7   (DENOMINATION* AND SCHOOL<S>) IN HEAD, LEAD AND LEGISLAT* OR
*              CONSTITUTION* OR APPEAL<S> OR INJUNCTION<S> OR COURT<S> OR S
*              UIT<S> AND NEWS IN CLASS
*-----*
```

```
.....
851780239 THU JUN.27,1985 PAGE: P8
BYLINE: BERTRAND MAROTTE
CLASS:*News*
DATELINE: Quebec PQ WORDS: 621
.....
```

**** Quebec to*appeal*ruling blocking*school*board changes ****

By BERTRAND MAROTTE
Globe and Mail Reporter

QUEBEC - The Quebec Government will*appeal*a Quebec Superior*Court*
*injunction*against a major restructuring of the province's*denominational*
*school*boards, Education Minister Francois Gendron announced yesterday.
Mr. Gendron also announced that he will press the provincial Cabinet,
and Justice Minister Pierre Marc Johnson in particular, to include demands
for a revision of Section 93 of the*Constitution*Act of 1867 in future
*constitutional*talks with the federal Government. Section 93 guarantees
*school*rights to two recognized groups, Catholics and Protestants.

"We cannot accept this interruption in the evolution of our*school*
system," Mr. Gendron said. The revision of Section 93 is "an element which
must be a part of any exchange (on the*Constitution)*with Prime Minister
(Brian) Mulroney," he said.

The sweeping changes to the*school*boards that were to be implemented
under Bill 3 by July, 1986, were declared unconstitutional by Mr. Justice
Andre Brossard of Quebec Superior*Court*in a 110-page judgment released on
Tuesday.

Judge Brossard also issued a permanent*injunction*against the
implementation of Bill 3 until a final decision is made, probably by the
Supreme*Court*of Canada.

Bill 3, passed by the Government in December, 1984, would strip*school*
boards of their property and personnel and set a deadline of July, 1986,

for abolishing most*denominational*school*boards and reorganizing the educational system along linguistic lines. The bill would create five French-language*school*boards and two English-language*school*boards on the island of Montreal, where most of the controversy has been generated.

Mr. Gendron said that the implementation of Bill 3 was suspended as of yesterday, except in the case of about 20*school*boards that have voluntarily agreed to restructure themselves along the new lines and have set themselves a July 1, 1985, deadline.

The jubilant reaction from the various*school*boards that sought the *injunction*and the anglophone rights' group, Alliance Quebec, is "slightly simplistic," Mr. Gendron said, because a consensus including both anglophone and francophone sectors of society had been reached only through hundreds of public meetings.

In their arguments before Judge Brossard,*school*board representatives said that the century-old system should not be tampered with as long as Quebec's status under the*constitution*is not settled.

A Supreme*Court*of Canada decision on the*constitutionality*of the reorganization of the*schools*(and of controversial provisions of Bill 29, passed on June 4, which exclude religious minorities from voting in elections for four*denominational*school*boards in Montreal and Quebec) is not expected for two or three years.

Prior to 1867, provision was made for a system of common, non-*denominational*school*boards outside of Quebec City and Montreal. But any *denominational*group was free to create its own religiously based, or dissident,*school*board.

After 1873, however, the original system of common and dissident *schools*was gradually replaced by a new system dividing*school*boards into two separate Catholic and Protestant systems.

Because they were created after Confederation, these new boards have no *constitutional*guarantees, the provincial Government argues.

Those dissident groups that merged voluntarily gave up their rights under Section 93 of the*Constitution*Act of 1867, with only five of the original dissident boards that did not merge with the larger systems still *constitutionally*protected, the province says.

The Government contends that only the four original Protestant and Catholic boards of Montreal and Quebec come under the protection of Section 93, which guarantees*school*rights and privileges to two recognized groups, Catholics and Protestants.

Representatives from different Protestant*school*boards argued in*court* that they had all to some extent come together as a result of mergers between the various dissident boards and should still retain *constitutional*protection.

ADDED SEARCH TERMS: Quebec language separate*schools*boards law

851770228 WED JUN.26,1985 PAGE: P3
BYLINE: ROBERT KOZAK
CLASS:*News* SOURCE: SPCL
DATELINE: Montreal P2 WORDS: 735

**** Quebec*school*system saved by*court*****

By ROBERT KOZAK

Special to The Globe and Mail

MONTREAL - Changes in the education system in Quebec that meant the end of*denominational*school*boards have been declared unconstitutional by Mr. Justice Andre Brossard of Quebec Superior*Court.*

In a written judgment yesterday, Judge Brossard also outlined reasons for issuing a permanent*injunction*against Government ministries charged with implementing Bill 3 until a final decision is made, probably in the Supreme*Court*of Canada.

Bill 3, passed on Dec. 24, 1984, stripped*school*boards of their property and personnel and set a deadline of July, 1986, for abolishing most*denominational*school*boards and setting up French- or English-language commissions.

Catholic and Protestant*school*board administrators were jubilant at the decision.

"All our arguments were retained by the judge," Montreal Catholic *School*Commission chairman Michel Pallascio said. "No intelligent person could accept Bill 3's changes to the territory of Catholic*school*boards on the Island of Montreal. This was proved by the decision."

"Bill 3 was an attempt at state control of the*schools;*we decided to fight that, and we knew we had*constitutional*guarantees," said John Simms, president of the Quebec Association of Protestant*School*Boards.

The Minister of Education, Francois Gendron, has not had time to read or analyze the judgment, ministry spokesman Pascal Ouellet said. Mr. Ouellet would not say whether the ministry will go to the Quebec*Court*of *Appeal*or perhaps negotiate with*school*boards.

Arguments in the case began in early May. During the hearings, boards tried to prove that they were vehicles of their communities and that, without them, an important part of the social fabric would be missing.

*School*boards that existed in Montreal and Quebec City before 1867 are protected as*denominational*schools*under Section 93 of the*Constitution* Act of 1867, as are dissident (minority) boards set up after that time, the judgment said.

"With our dissident roots, it means they can't abolish us. We are protected under the*constitution,"*said Joel Hartt, chairman of the Protestant Lakeshore*School*Board.

The result of years of planning by successive ministers of education, Bill 3 would have dismembered boards and suppressed their power to tax and decide on teaching materials, Judge Brossard said.

Under Bill 3,*school*committees would decide what faith, if any, a *school*would have, although, Mr. Pallascio said, the institution that would decide the*denomination*of a*school*system would be the commission, not the*school.*

Bill 3 would have been a major reform of the roles of*school* committees, councils and boards, although Judge Brossard said this could have been done by amending the Education Act.

An action by two intervening Catholic*school*boards was dismissed by the*court*because they had not presented material showing that they had dissenting roots.

The judgment will have effects reaching outside Quebec, said Collin Irvin, the lawyer for the QAPSB.

The association supported Franco-Ontarians in 1984 before the Ontario *Court*of*Appeal*in their case over the Education Act of Ontario and minority education rights in which the right of Catholics to manage

*schools*was protected.

That case, as this one did, used Section 93 of the*Constitution*Act to protect minority education rights.

October*school*board elections for commissioners in the proposed areas, seven of which would have replaced the eight existing boards in Montreal, will be postponed indefinitely by the*injunction*.

A related case brought before the same*court*by the Protestant boards argues that they have the right to set their curriculums. A decision in that case is expected toward the end of the summer.

The ruling leaves untouched controversial provisions of Bill 29 - passed June 4 - that exclude religious minorities from voting in elections for four*denominational*school*boards in Montreal and Quebec City.

Those provisions were part of an amendment to the Education Act not covered by the*school*boards' challenge because it was passed so recently, said Allan Hilton, a lawyer for the QAPSB.

"This means that in*denominational*school*board elections . . . Jews and other religious minorities are not allowed to vote," he said.

Bill 29 was an attempt to make Bill 3 conform to a Supreme*Court*of Canada ruling last year that declared that limitations on the tax powers of*denominational*boards were unconstitutional.

The Supreme*Court*had said that a*denominational*board must be controlled by people of the same religion.

ADDED SEARCH TERMS: Canada*Constitution*Quebec education law separate
*schools*boards reform

851660302 SAT JUN.15,1985 PAGE: M4

BYLINE: ROBERT MATAS

CLASS:*News*

DATELINE:

WORDS: 731

***Schools*plan expanded classes in fall **

** Teachers reject Catholic job offers **

By ROBERT MATAS

Several public*school*teachers have turned down job offers for September in an expanded Catholic high*school*system, partly because they are not willing to restrict their teaching to values promoted by the religious *school*system.

Most Catholic*school*boards in Ontario are pushing ahead with plans to expand their high*school*systems this fall, acting on faith that the provincial Government - regardless of its political stripe - will authorize the expansion before September.

Many public*school*teachers across the province have agreed to transfer into the Catholic*school*system, following the anticipated shift in students once Government financing enables Catholic high*schools*to eliminate tuition fees.

However, other public*school*teachers are balking at the prospect of working in the*denominational*system.

Lynn Chisnall, a 38-year-old public*school*teacher who is not a Catholic, said she was offered a job over the phone, without an interview,

by the Dufferin-Peel Roman Catholic Separate*School*Board.

Miss Chisnall, who specializes in English, taught for 14 years in Ottawa but has worked for the Peel Board of Education only since last October. She had been told earlier this year she might not have a job with the public board in September.

Catholic board officials had no indication of her religion, knowing only her qualifications, her area of specialization, the*school*at which she taught and her phone number, said Miss Chisnall, who wears a "pro-choice" abortion button on her coat lapel.

She was invited to a meeting a few days later with other prospective employees to talk with board officials,*school*principals and vice principals.

"I walked into that meeting ready to go and I walked out determined to stay in the public*school*system," she said.

The meeting with Catholic administrators left her with the impression of a paternalistic system, imposing a dress code on teachers as well as students.

The Catholic teachers' contract was not as strong as her current public*school*contract and would have required her to teach more while being paid less. The uncertainty over whether politicians would backtrack or the*courts*would overturn the changes also colored her feelings about the job offer.

A major factor in her decision, Miss Chisnall added, was that she realized she would have difficulty fitting into a Catholic*school,*although the administrators were trying to make her feel welcome.

The Catholic*school*would hire her as long as she respected the Catholic nature of the institution and would co-operate in instilling Catholic values in the students. She would not be required to take any courses on religious education or participate in the religious life of the*school.*

An official was asked which values were to be instilled in the students. The Catholic*school*would not want one of its teachers leading the campaign for abortions and appearing in the media, the prospective teachers were told.

"It struck me as reasonable, in terms of the values of that board . . . but I wondered what that meant in the classroom if a child wanted to discuss it and I would have to censure myself. I could not voice my personal opinions without being afraid who was asking and who was watching," she said.

"It came down to a feeling that I, as an English teacher, would have felt like a hypocrite," she said.

Miss Chisnall was not alone in turning down an offer. The Dufferin-Peel Catholic board and the Peel public board agreed that 21 public*school*teachers would be affected by an increase of about 350 students this fall in the Catholic*school*system. The Catholic board offered positions to all displaced teachers, but only six agreed to switch.

Retirements and resignations submitted in late May opened up several positions, giving the public board teachers, including Miss Chisnall, the choice of working in a public or separate*school*system.

Rod Albert, president of the Ontario Secondary*School*Teachers Federation, said public*school*teachers are not stampeding over to the Catholic*school*system whenever jobs are offered. Public*school*teachers in areas where enrolment continues to grow, such as Peel and York Region, can afford to say no, he said.

However, teachers in areas of declining enrolment, such as Sudbury, are

more reluctant to pass up a job in the separate*school*system, especially if the only option is unemployment, Mr. Albert said.

ADDED SEARCH TERMS: Ontario education finance separate*schools*public
*schools*teachers

851610070 MON JUN.10,1985 PAGE: P1
BYLINE: ROBERT MATAS
CLASS:*News*
DATELINE: WORDS: 985

** RC*schools*floundering elsewhere **
** Ontario seen as flagship in funds battle **

By ROBERT MATAS

Roman Catholic*school*trustees see Ontario as the site of a major victory in a battle they are losing for Government financing for separate*schools* elsewhere in Canada.

While Ontario is strengthening its Catholic*school*system with greater Government support, Catholic*schools*in British Columbia are relying more and more on weekly bingo games to keep the*school*doors open.

The biggest threat to the Catholic*school*system is in Quebec, which has the oldest and most solidly entrenched religion-based educational system in Canada.

The Quebec Government wants to dismantle its Catholic and Protestant *school*systems and divide the*schools*according to language, not religion.

Jeannette Milot, a trustee on the Catholic*School*Board of Montreal, said she shudders to think of the national impact of current changes to the Catholic*school*system in Quebec.

"All the provinces look to Quebec," she said in an interview during the annual three-day meeting of the Canadian Catholic*School*Trustees Association in Windsor which ended Saturday.

"When we meet trustees from other provinces they ask us how things are and we say, 'It's very hard,' " Mrs. Milot said.

"They tell us, 'Don't give up. If you lose what you have, we will also lose what little bit we have.' "

Catholic parents get little aid in five of the 10 provinces.

British Columbia and Manitoba treat Catholic*schools*as private*schools* and provide minimal support. Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island provide no financing whatsoever for Catholic*schools*.

Education is a provincial responsibility in Canada and is arranged differently in each province. The extent of Government support for Catholic*schools*in most provinces depends on the arrangements extant when the provinces entered Confederation. Only Quebec, Ontario, Alberta and Saskatchewan had*constitutional*guarantees for the Catholic community.

Newfoundland entered Canada in 1949 with its educational system based entirely on religious allegiances and it continues to maintain four fully financed*denominational*school*systems.

The changes in Quebec - which are being challenged in the*courts*- will test the strength of the*constitutional*guarantees and could wipe out the separate*schools'*strongest protection.

Various provincial governments in Quebec have tried to dismantle the *denominational*school*system for the past 100 years, three trustees from the Catholic*School*Board of Montreal said in interviews at the conference.

However, the current attack comes after 15 or 20 years of serious deterioration in the Catholic*schools,*Louis Bouchard, a trustee since 1973, said.

"People want their freedom and see Catholicism as a chain on their freedom," trustee Paul Faniel said. "But to a believer, it is not a chain."

Catholic parents want to instill a set of values in their children and want the*school*to teach and reinforce a Catholic approach to life, Mrs. Milot said. "The*schools*are not there to disrupt what the family is trying to do. The first right in education belongs to the parents," she said.

Molly Boucher, president of the Canadian Catholic*School*Trustees Association and a trustee of the St. Patrick's high*school*board in Vancouver, said the opposition to Government support for Catholic*schools,*particularly in Ontario, appears to reflect some insecurities.

The Catholic*schools*offer a different philosophy about education than do the public or Protestant*school*systems. "But we do not feel we compete with them. . . . We are not trying to destroy their system," she said.

British Columbia provides some financing for Catholic and other qualified private*schools.*Since 1978, the Government has paid 30 per cent of the average cost of education in the area where the private*school*is located.

The major change after Government support began was an increase in salaries for teachers, Mrs. Boucher said. Although about 18 per cent of the people in British Columbia are Catholic, the Catholic*schools,*which charge up to \$800 tuition, have attracted only 4 per cent of the children in B.C.*schools.*

St. Patrick's High*School,*like many other Catholic*schools*in the province, runs bingo games every Tuesday evening to raise the money needed for the*school.*

Frank McGrath, a Saskatoon*school*trustee who has been on the Catholic *school*board for 20 years, recalled the animosity stirred up in the early sixties when the New Democratic Party government in Saskatchewan decided to extend full financing to Catholic high*schools*in the province.

The education minister at the time said it would be his political downfall and it was, Mr. McGrath said.

Saskatchewan was spared many problems that now confront Ontario. The extension of financing was introduced in Saskatchewan at the start of the baby boom, when*schools*had to be built for both Catholic and public *school*students. Both systems also had more jobs available than teachers.

The two*school*systems have now settled down into a state of "healthy competition," he added. Each system must be mindful of what it is providing, knowing that parents will transfer their children from one system to the other if education is lacking in some respect, Mr. McGrath said.

Saskatchewan, Newfoundland and Alberta have shown how separate*school* financing can exist side by side with public financing for other*school* systems without dividing the community along religious lines or destroying the public*school*system, trustees and administrators said.

Catholic*schools*jealously guard a Catholic atmosphere, ensuring programs and personnel are directed toward instilling students with a

family oriented Catholic perspective.

However, Catholic*schools*also allow non-Catholic students to attend, where space is available, and will hire non-Catholic teachers if they cannot find qualified Catholic teachers.

"Catholic*schools*do not divide a community any more than families do," said Rev. Thomas Mohan, superintendent of religious education for the Calgary Roman Catholic Separate*School*Board.

The Catholic*schools*train their students to be good citizens as well as good Catholics, he added. "But education cannot be just for the state," Father Mohan said.

ADDED SEARCH TERMS: Roman Catholic Church Canada Ontario education

851400145 MON MAY.20,1985 PAGE: M1
BYLINE: DANIEL LETT
CLASS:*News*
DATELINE: WORDS: 650

** Plan would 'wreck public*school*system' **

** Tory rejects financing of RC*schools**

By DANIEL LETT

Norman Sterling, Conservative MPP for Carleton-Grenville, says he can no longer support Premier Frank Miller's plan to finance Roman Catholic separate*schools*with provincial tax money and will do "whatever is necessary" to halt it.

He said in a telephone interview yesterday that he will vote against Government*legislation*if necessary to prevent public financing of the separate*schools,*which his leader plans to implement in September.

Mr. Sterling, who served in the cabinet of former premier William Davis, said the Government's approach to the issue "ignored the electorate during the election" and he has decided it is time to speak up against a policy that would "wreck the public*school*system in the province."

"I cannot sit back quietly any more," Mr. Sterling said from his home in Manotick. "I cannot support the extension of funding to parochial *schools."*

Mr. Sterling, formerly provincial secretary for resources development, said it is hard to predict what he will do if voting against the *legislation*contributes to a defeat of the minority Government, but his responsibilities and priorities are clear.

"I believe that this Government's support of the public*school*system is more important than any party staying in power - either now or in the future," Mr. Sterling said.

He said he does not see how the Government can support Roman Catholic *schools*and ignore all other*denominations.*A unified public*school*system that would not segregate children by religion would be much better, he said.

Premier Miller said in an interview yesterday he was "not surprised" at Mr. Sterling's comments but was surprised "that he would say so publicly."

Mr. Miller said he encourages open discussion in caucus and, while it is not unusual for members of opposition parties to break with party

policy, it is odd within the governing party.

However, he said he is not worried about Mr. Sterling's deviation from party policy because "all he is doing is reflecting the views of a lot of people in Ontario right now."

He said there will be a long period of assessment among caucus members to establish "who stands for what," but he expects full support from the caucus for the Government's plans to go ahead with the extension of financing.

Mr. Miller said he still opposes a free vote in the*Legislature*on the issue.

Mr. Sterling's comments did not change the Government's plan to introduce*legislation*soon after the House reconvenes in June, but they underlined many of the problems that still must be worked out.

Mr. Miller said he expects heated debate will mean it will take "a long, long time between second and third readings" of the*legislation.*

Mr. Sterling places most of the blame for the present controversy on former premier William Davis, whose promise to extend financing to Roman Catholic high*schools*was a "serious blunder."

He said other members of caucus share his opinions, but years of "living under a Davis cabinet" have robbed Government MPPs of the will to criticize Government policies in public. This "tight-lipped" attitude had led to a cynical electorate that showed its discontent in the provincial election this month.

Mr. Sterling said some critics may say he is just getting revenge because Mr. Miller dropped him from the Cabinet in a shuffle just after he took over the leadership, but that would be "unfortunate" because it would not solve the problem.

He acknowledged that his actions may end his political career but said he is willing "to accept the consequences" because he sees a point at which the Government could create serious problems in the province's education system.

"I'm getting tired of what appears to be a silent conspiracy to wreck the public*school*system in the province," Mr. Sterling said. "But I will do everything I can to force this position on the Government - and probably save their bacon in the process."

ADDED SEARCH TERMS: Frank Miller statements Progressive Conservative Party Ontario government education finance separate*schools*

851190105 MON APR.29,1985 PAGE: P3
CLASS:*News* SOURCE: SPCL
DATELINE: Montreal P2 WORDS: 494

** Quebec*school*plan **
** sparks*court*action **
MONTREAL (Special) - The battle against Government*legislation*to reorganize*school*boards along French and English lines moves to Quebec Superior*Court*in Montreal today.

Bill 3, passed by the Government in December, 1984, would reorganize the education system along linguistic lines by creating five French*school*

boards and two English*school*boards on the island of Montreal.

While the Minister of Education has already implemented parts of the law that would make the new*school*boards non-denominational, existing Catholic and Protestant*school*boards argue their right to exist is guaranteed by the Canadian*Constitution.*

Some of the existing boards are bilingual, and some Catholic*schools* are under the administration of an English board.

Lawyers representing the boards will appear before Mr. Justice Andre Brossard seeking a halt to the Government's reorganization plan.

"We are seeking a permanent*injunction*"to have the whole law declared invalid, said Alan Hilton, one of the lawyers representing Protestant*school*boards in Quebec.

Some of the boards argue that the Government has no right to take away powers granted to them before 1867, while other boards, which were created after 1867, say they have similar rights.

"As long as the*constitutional*problem is not settled, we do not want to change the system only to have the judgment say the law is unconstitutional and then have to go back to the old system," said Jacques Mongeau, president of the Island Council of Montreal, a financing organization which represents five Catholic*school*boards in the case.

A separate motion asks that*school*boards receive the right to determine*school*curriculum.

As the case will likely finish in the Supreme*Court*of Canada, an*injunction*would halt the transfer of*school*property and personnel that is scheduled for before July 1, 1986.

The Quebec Association of Protestant*School*Boards and the Montreal Catholic*School*Commission made their requests for*injunctions*and declaratory judgments in February of this year.

However, the Montreal Protestant*school*board had already asked that the law be declared invalid before it was passed in the National Assembly on Dec. 21, 1984.

Several other*school*boards joined in the demand for an*injunction*in March and the Chief Justice of the Superior*Court*decided that all the cases would be heard at the same time.

The case was originally to have been heard on April 15. However, lawyers for the Quebec Attorney-General said they needed more time to prepare their case following the decision to delay elections for commissioners in new boards in Montreal and the withdrawal of*legislation* aimed at repairing*constitutional*flaws in Bill 3.

If the law is implemented, the existence of four*school*boards that started before 1867 would be assured. However, in one case the student population would decline from more than 100,000 to 6,000, and another board would be left without any*schools*at all.

All other*school*boards, as they are known in the province, would cease to exist.

ADDED SEARCH TERMS: *school*boards Quebec education

851120214 MON APR.22,1985 PAGE: M4 (ILLUS)
BYLINE: ROBERT MATAS
CLASS:*News*

DATELINE:

WORDS: 674

:.....

**** Anti-Catholic feeling stirred ******** by RC aid plan, official says ****

By ROBERT MATAS

The Ontario Government's extension of support to Roman Catholic high schools*has revived religious strife in the province between Catholic and other Christian groups, says the director of the Hamilton-Wentworth Roman Catholic Separate*School*Board.

"Many of you have been shocked by the sentiments that have come above the surface since (former premier William) Davis's announcement," Pat Brennan told about 200 separate*school*trustees at a weekend conference.

"Oh, yes, this new intolerance is nicely dressed and more carefully rationalized, but when we analyze the essential forces driving it, we find they are the same as they were in the past," he said.

Anti-Catholic sentiment is the cross that Catholics must bear as long as they attempt to maintain their institutions, he added. The Catholic community was given equal status in education 144 years ago, he said, but that right has been begrudged ever since by some elements of the community.

Mr. Brennan said later in an interview that he was thinking, in particular, about opinions expressed by some United Church members about the Government's plans to phase in full financing for a Roman Catholic high*school*system, beginning this September with Grade 11. Government financing now ends at Grade 10.

"I've tried to analyze their rationale (for opposing Government support) and I cannot find any adequate rationale," he said.

He emphasized that he was not labelling all opposition to Government policy as anti-Catholic. The Catholic community accepts there is some legitimate opposition to Government financing of Catholic*schools*from those who advocate a non-denominational public*school*system. That philosophical position, though, reflects the U.S. approach to education and not the British and French traditions which mark this country, he said.

Nevertheless, opinions expressed by some people remind him of the time when it was almost a tenet of faith to be anti-Catholic, he added.

Right Rev. Clarke MacDonald, the former moderator of the United Church of Canada and a critic of the Government policy, has said the opposition reflects concern for human rights and the public*school*system and does not reflect anti-Catholic sentiment. The churches work together in other areas of common concern, he said.

The United Church co-ordinating committee of Ontario conferences endorsed a statement in February calling for the Government to delay implementation until consideration could be given to human rights issues, such as the impact of the changes on non-Catholic teachers and pupils.

Rev. Mervyn Russell of the Hamilton Conference task force on public education has said Mr. Davis moved Ontario closer to having a state church. The Government should not give considerable support to any religion for the propagation of its particular point of view, Mr. Russell said.

Anglican Archbishop Lewis Garnsworthy, another outspoken critic of extension, has said he is also concerned about reviving nineteenth century quarrels. But the*appeal*to ecumenism should have come before the decisions were made and not afterward.

Joseph Duffey, president of the Ontario Separate*School*Trustees Association, said yesterday Mr. Brennan's concerns about religious strife are unwarranted. The opposition is mostly from public*school*teachers who fear losing their jobs and public*school*trustees who feel there is not enough money for two systems, he said.

Meanwhile, at the separate*school*trustees' conference, Toronto Archbishop Emmett Cardinal Carter urged separate*school*trustees to not take a 'holier-than-thou' attitude and to co-operate with the larger community. The trustees must try to understand the differences of opinion and be prepared to make accommodations, he said.

However, Cardinal Carter continued to maintain his public silence over a report that Mr. Davis privately promised in 1981 to provide Government financing for Roman Catholic*schools*before another provincial election would be called.

In a book to be released this spring, Toronto journalist Claire Hoy says Mr. Davis tried to withdraw the promise in 1984, but Cardinal Carter threatened to have every parish priest campaign in the pulpit against the Tories.

Spokesmen for Cardinal Carter said yesterday that he was not available for an interview.

ADDED SEARCH TERMS: Roman Catholic Church Ontario education finance
separate*schools*

851100201 SAT APR.20,1985 PAGE: M7
BYLINE: MARINA STRAUSS
CLASS:*News*
DATELINE: WORDS: 337

** Parents challenge **

** prayers in*school**

By MARINA STRAUSS

A group of Sudbury parents is challenging the*constitutional*validity of requiring daily Lord's Prayer services for their children in classes, and the case could have wider implications for other non-denominational *schools*with religious observances.

The parents are invoking the new equality- rights section of the Charter of Rights and Freedoms, which prohibits discrimination on the basis of religion, as well as another Charter guarantee of freedom of religion.

"There is a separate*school*system that parents can send their children to if they want a religious component in the education," says lawyer Philip Zylberberg, one of the five parents. "In 1985, we can't presume that anybody else believes in supreme beings or prayers."

The group of five parents will ask the Supreme*Court*of Ontario next week to strike down as unconstitutional the law's requirement of religious observance, said Toronto lawyer Charles Campbell, who is representing the parents.

If*schools*won't scrap the prayer services, Mr. Campbell will ask that the*court*require a selection of prayers for children, depending on their

religion.

However, Gordon Ewin, superintendent of *schools* for the Sudbury Board of Education, said that parents can have their children opt out of prayer services, which some parents do occasionally.

Some *school* boards, such as the Toronto Board of Education, allow teachers to choose the daily prayer, Mr. Zylberberg said. But that isn't good enough, he added, because children should have the choice.

"It's discrimination against non-believers, and non-believers are a large percentage of the population - including myself," Mr. Zylberberg said.

"If there were a moment of silence, which leads to thoughts of what's right and wrong, that would be all right. But there is no educational purpose in making children participate in religious exercises."

The group of parents includes two who are secular Jews, one practicing Jew, one Moslem and one secular Christian who was offended when a Gideon Bible - which contains only the New Testament - was given to his child at *school*, Mr. Zylberberg said.

ADDED SEARCH TERMS: education

851100300 SAT APR. 20, 1985 PAGE: P13 (ILLUS)

BYLINE: ROBERT STEPHENS

CLASS: *News*

DATELINE: Windsor NF

WORDS: 551

** Students attack Liberal leader **

** over support for RC financing **

By ROBERT STEPHENS

Globe and Mail Reporter

WINDSOR - Ontario Liberal Leader David Peterson walked into a hornets' nest of protest yesterday as 600 students confronted him on the issue of separate *school* financing.

The students, crowded into a gymnasium at Sandwich Secondary *School* in Essex County, criticized the Liberal Leader for supporting the province's plan to extend full financing to Catholic high *schools*.

Parents, teachers and students carrying signs and chanting "'Co-operate, don't segregate" demonstrated outside the *school*.

Many of the students argued that the plan was discriminatory on the basis of religion, and they complained loudly and bitterly that there was no political representation for their views. All three political parties have endorsed the principle of full financing.

Scott Hunt, a history teacher at the public high *school*, said about half of the 1,000 students at Sandwich Secondary are Catholics and even these young people are opposed to the provincial plan. "They like being in a *school* with more than one religion."

He explained that many students would have to be bused 24 kilometres to another *school* if Sandwich Secondary is turned over to the Catholic *School* Board.

One student asked Mr. Peterson in the freewheeling question-and-answer period whether the province's decision would split communities along

religious lines. The Liberal Leader replied that the plan "won't work if extremists prevail. . . . But it can work if we respect the plurality of this country."

Another student said the province should delay implementation until the courts have a chance to rule on the constitutionality of extending public financing to a denominational school system. Mr. Peterson said the matter should have been referred to the Supreme Court of Canada months ago, but now "I'm not prepared to use that as an excuse to delay."

Kelly White, a Grade 13 student, applauded Mr. Peterson for at least going to the school to discuss his views. Premier Frank Miller recently declined an invitation to meet the students, and instead visited a nearby dairy farm.

Mr. Peterson said he was committed to maintaining the quality of the public school system, but "I can only give you my assurances. . . . I can't prove what I'm saying."

He also stressed the importance of a full and open debate on the issue, and he said the Legislature should sit all summer and provincial mediators should be used to settle disputes between the different school boards.

The Liberal Leader added that he would amend the legislation if it were found to be unconstitutional. And he said he had "an open mind" about financing other alternative and independent schools, but his first priority is financing the Catholic system. "We've bitten off a lot right now, and we've got to digest that first."

He argued that Catholic schools have had "legislative status for 140 years, and the clock is not going to be turned back. . . . We have to respect that historical fact."

The Liberal Leader told the students that the Conservative Government already has drawn up draft legislation and implementation plans, but it refuses to release this information until after the election.

But the students were not appeased. "Isn't our political system supposed to represent the views of the people?" one of them asked. "No one is listening to what we have to say."

ADDED SEARCH TERMS: biography statements Ontario elections Liberal Party education finance separate schools*

850950184 FRI APR.05,1985 PAGE: N8
CLASS:*News* SOURCE: CP
DATELINE: Quebec P2 WORDS: 468

** P2 to reconsider legislation**
** taking vote from minorities **

QUEBEC (CP) - The Quebec Government says it will reconsider controversial legislation which would have blocked religious minorities from voting in elections for denominational school boards.

Under Bill 29, Jews, Moslems, and other religious minorities would have been able to vote or run as candidates only in elections for new English- and French-language boards.

The storm of protest from minority groups and the opposition Liberals forced Education Minister Francois Gendron yesterday to cancel June

elections for the few*denominational*boards left under a new*school* reorganization.

The elections for these boards will be held in December.

"I am ready to undertake a second, detailed study of Bill 29," Mr. Gendron told the National Assembly, in announcing the delay.

"Study could lead us to improve certain elements of the bill and perhaps change others," he said. The bill itself will proceed when the Assembly re-convenes on April 16 after the Easter recess.

Religious minorities in Quebec have traditionally participated in Protestant*school*boards, which have been largely English-speaking; Catholic*school*boards were predominantly French-speaking.

Under the*school*reorganization law, Bill 3, Catholic and Protestant boards have been scrapped, except for those in central Montreal and Quebec City which existed at Confederation in 1867.

*Constitutionally*protected, these will be the only*denominational* boards to remain under the*school*reorganization which has led to the creation of 106 new language-based boards.

The Supreme*Court*of Canada ruled last December that sections of Bill 57, a municipal financing law that was part of the*school*reorganization plan, violated the*school*boards' right to levy taxes under the British North America Act by making the taxes subject to a referendum.

In the ruling, Mr. Justice Julien Chouinard said a referendum would allow people of all religions to vote, while the BNA Act recognized the rights of Catholics and Protestants to control their*denominational* schools.*

The Quebec Government responded with Bill 29, which would bar people of 'a different religious confession than that of a confessional*school* board' from voting in the elections or tax referendums, even though their children were enrolled in the board's*schools.*

Mr. Gendron insisted that there were no hidden motives behind the bill, only an attempt to conform to the Supreme*Court*decision.

Liberal education critic Claude Ryan called the bill "a refinement of cruelty," saying it goes much further than it had to.

"You know you are taking us back 50 years when you say that a Jew will no longer be able to vote at the Protestant*School*Board of Greater Montreal," he said. "They are saying that, if you are a Jew, . . . you have no right to belong to the Protestant*school*board, no right to vote there, you will no longer be entitled to sit as a commissioner."

ADDED SEARCH TERMS: Quebec education law*legislation*minorities ethnic groups*school*boards religion

.....

850840269 MON MAR.25,1985 PAGE: M1

CLASS:*News*

DATELINE:

WORDS: 1288

.....

** Anglican archbishop critical **

** Top clerics split over RC financing **

Archbishop Lewis Garnsworthy, leaning back on his chair with his feet up on his desk, stared into space while he weighed his words carefully.

"Every time I speak about it, I get labelled anti-Roman. Well, I'm not. But I'm determined. Someone has to say something about a public system of education that has served this province well," said Archbishop Garnsworthy, the Archbishop of Toronto and Metropolitan for Ontario for the Anglican Church of Canada.

Several months after former premier William Davis promised to provide Government grants for the Catholic high*schools,*Anglican and United Church leaders are still angry over what they consider special treatment for the Roman Catholic community.

Even a private meeting with Mr. Davis, followed by a tense meeting with members of the provincial commission on aid to Roman Catholic high*schools* and with Emmett Cardinal Carter, the ranking Roman Catholic prelate in English-speaking Canada, has failed to bridge the gap.

When Mr. Davis announced the new financing arrangement that is to begin this September, he emphasized a "responsibility to be sure" that public aid to Roman Catholic high*schools*"strengthens rather than fragments the social fabric of the province."

"In all our endeavors, we must seek to build fellowship and common values, not segregation and mutual suspicion," Mr. Davis said.

William Newnham, chairman of the commission charged with implementing the new policy, has identified the "protection of the social fabric" as one of the most important aspects of the change.

Ontario's history since the 1800s is colored by many unresolved battles over church-state relations and education, erupting almost every 20 years. Mr. Newnham is trying hard to prevent the revival of the century-old religious battles.

Mr. Newnham speaks optimistically about the widespread acceptance he has found for public aid to Roman Catholic high*schools.*"I don't see it as divisive," he said in a recent interview.

But he candidly admitted that, in some areas, Government financing for Roman Catholic*schools*will place the local public*school*system in jeopardy. The prospect of public aid is splitting those communities along religious lines.

Mr. Newnham, a retired community college president, has stressed the need for co-operation during the commission's travels across the province. "We want it launched with goodwill on all sides . . . if we can only think how other persons view us," he told a group of public*school* supporters critical of the changes.

Cardinal Carter, Archbishop of Toronto and a friend of Mr. Davis, said he would like to avoid opening old wounds. So far, he believes the atmosphere across the province has been very good. "There have been a few very vociferous and articulate people who have made complaints, but I think it's been a very small minority," he said in an interview.

"In modern education in an English-speaking country, it just does not make sense to have the*school*system cut off before the top of high*school,"*he said later. The Government provided support in 1867 for Catholic*schools*as they then existed, he noted. The Government should have extended that support as the*school*system expanded, he added.

Cardinal Carter described relations before 1867 between the Catholic and Protestant churches as nasty, referring to confrontations between the churches as if they had happened yesterday. The churches have moved much closer, he said, from the time when it was almost a tenet of faith to hate members of another religion.

He has discovered that most people, even those outside the Roman Catholic Church, do not oppose the changes. Church leaders from other

religions are raising more concerns than their members, Cardinal Carter added.

Archbishop Garnsworthy dismissed Cardinal Carter's comments as self-serving. "I expect that would be his point of view because he has everything to gain by it," he said.

Archbishop Garnsworthy added he will continue to express his concerns about public support for*denominational*schools,*regardless of the popular view. "I'm not interested if 50 per cent or 99 per cent support it. I'm concerned about what is right and just and needs to be done in a democracy. This question (of public aid to*denominational*schools)*has not been discussed."

Archbishop Garnsworthy said he is concerned about reproducing nineteenth-century quarrels. But the*appeal*to ecumenism should have come before the decisions on financing the separate*school*system, not afterwards.

He is concerned about a drain on limited Government funds, which will mean less money for the public*school*system, leading inevitably to a cutback in*school*programs. He also wants*legislative*guarantees to ensure that public*school*teachers are not put out of work as a result of the changes and that every student should have access to a publicly financed educational system.

Furthermore, he is looking for a new political structure to govern *schools,*with Catholic and non-Catholic*school*trustees making decisions jointly for both the Catholic and non-Catholic*school*system.

Archbishop Garnsworthy saves his harshest criticism, though, for Mr. Davis. "This whole business has been brought down by a wave of the hand, without ever being discussed by any public body in the province, without ever going to the*Legislature*. . . . I think that is very bad democracy. In a democratic society when you make a decision as important as this, it should be a matter of public discussion. There should be lots of platforms."

Archbishop Garnsworthy was particularly upset that the Catholic bishops were aware of Mr. Davis's announcement before the former premier rose in the*Legislature*on June 12, 1984. "There was consultation with the Roman Catholics and there was no consultation with me or any other religious leader, or with public*school*system people," he said.

"That's helpful to them (the Catholic community), but it says that we have a favored group in the province that receives information that no one else does. I don't think that's good democracy, either, since we are all affected."

Right Rev. Clarke MacDonald, who was moderator of the United Church of Canada when Mr. Davis announced the changes, also continues to be concerned about the process. Not only was he left in the dark before the announcement, but neither Mr. Davis nor former education minister Bette Stephenson replied to letters he wrote to the Government after the announcement was made.

Dr. MacDonald said he shares Archbishop Garnsworthy's concerns about restricted access to*schools*financed by tax revenues. He also objects to the teaching of religious dogma in a publicly supported system. A child's education is not complete if he is not taught about the role of religion in society, but he should not be taught Catholic dogma only, he said.

The United Church and Anglican religious leaders met Mr. Davis before Christmas to express their viewpoints. The former premier listened politely and then agreed to arrange a meeting with Cardinal Carter, Archbishop Garnsworthy reported.

The three religious leaders, who meet occasionally to discuss issues of common concern, met in January to exchange opinions about the new financing arrangements. However, no further meetings are planned.

Archbishop Garnsworthy said the meeting was useful. Cardinal Carter revealed a less strident position than many Catholic*school*trustees, indicating some support for co-operation between Catholic and non-Catholic*school*boards and for sharing facilities.

But the exchange of views did not resolve the differences. A few weeks after the meeting, the United Church renewed its call for a delay in implementation.

"We are deeply concerned that this policy could have the effect of eroding the public*school*system, perpetuating religious divisions in Ontario communities and encouraging demands from other religious*denominations*and groups for similar funding for their*schools," a committee of United Church members said.

ADDED SEARCH TERMS: Ontario government grants education finance Roman Catholic Church separate *schools*

850810192 FRI MAR.22,1985 PAGE: P1
BYLINE: ROBERT MATAS
CLASS:*News*
DATELINE: WORDS: 2490

** Rules ever-changing in RC financing game **
** Provincial commission near deadline **
** to determine winner of public support **

By ROBERT MATAS

The game has been dubbed "Davis Says." The only equipment required is a speech by former premier William Davis. The wild card in the game is that at any time, the rules can change.

Eight educators, administrators and*school*board politicians have been meeting privately this month around a rented conference table in temporary quarters set up in a downtown Toronto office tower to play the game.

They are members of a provincial commission appointed to advise the Ontario Government on extension of financing to separate*schools.*Their game rules consist entirely of the speech given by Mr. Davis last June 12 in the*Legislature.*Nine months later, that 16-minute speech remains the Government's only formal statement on the policy.

*School*boards submitted their proposals to the commission earlier this month. The commission is to decide by April 3 which plans should qualify for Government support. The deadline comes one day before Premier Frank Miller is expected to set out his vision of the future in a Speech from the Throne.

Some public*school*politicians and teachers question whether the commission has any real power and maintain it is only a paper tiger, diverting attention from the Government and playing with the*school*representatives while the provincial Government decides how to handle the issue.

However, the commission members and many other*school*board politicians

believe the outcome of their game could decide how plans to provide public aid to Roman Catholic high*schools*will be implemented in Ontario this September.

The Government changed its policy on education financing in the hope of providing better education for thousands of children in the Roman Catholic *school*system without hurting public*schools.*Public*school*supporters, though, have been screaming about the impact on public*school*programs, *schools,*teachers' jobs and communities.

The commission's job is, in effect, to ensure that*school*boards' plans are consistent with the statement made by Mr. Davis when he announced the changes last June. If the group decides that a*school*board's plans coincide with what "Davis says," it will allow the board to move ahead. If the group decides they do not, the plans are stopped.

The Government has not introduced any*legislation*permitting Ontario's Roman Catholic*school*system to offer a secondary*school*program. Nor has it issued any regulations or guidelines on how the changes should be implemented.

The Government has also been very vague on the cost of establishing a new high*school*system. Government officials estimated last June that implementation would cost \$120-million over three years. But they would not say how the money is to be spent. The commission is expected to reach its decisions - regardless of the cost - solely on the basis of Mr. Davis's statement.

A major obstacle for the commission is that the historic statement sets out provisions that may be impossible to reconcile. The main ingredients of the statement, according to commission chairman William Newnham, are:

- . Davis says government support will be extended to high*schools*in a Roman Catholic*school*system;

- . Davis says public*school*teachers will be protected from resulting changes;

- . Davis says the changes must not jeopardize, cripple or limit the viability of the non-denominational public high*school*system or compromise the quality of the public*schools;*

- . Davis says the changes should strengthen rather than fragment the social fabric of the province.

The commission has discovered in almost all Ontario communities that the four statements do not fit together easily.

In private meetings to be held during the month, the commissioners must decide how to balance Mr. Davis's commitment to establish a publicly supported Roman Catholic high*school*system with his guarantees to the public*school*system and its teachers.

Religious sentiment could also be a factor in situations where the proposed changes revived long-forgotten animosities between Catholics and non-Catholics.

The commission must also be prepared for a sudden change in the rules. Mr. Miller has endorsed Mr. Davis's initiative and Education Minister Keith Norton has been an advocate of public financing for Roman Catholic high*schools*for 10 years. But the Government's rules for implementation - especially those involving the controversial issue of access for non-Catholics - will not be clear until the*legislation*is unveiled.

And even the proposed*legislation*will not be a guarantee. A provincial election expected in May could mess up the game. If an election were called before*legislation*is passed, its outcome could change the rules.

The*courts*may also scramble the rules. The Metro Toronto*School*Board, backed by public*school*boards representing more than 50 per cent of the

province's students, is ready to ask in court if public financing of a school system that discriminates on the basis of religion conflicts with the Charter of Rights and Freedoms. As soon as the Government actually does something more than talk about it, the entire process may be stalled in the courts.

Debate over public aid for Catholic high schools has been part of Ontario's political history for more than 100 years. The Catholic schools began receiving Government support at Confederation in 1867 to protect the religious freedom of Catholic children who otherwise would have had to attend Protestant public schools. Similar guarantees were given to Protestants in Quebec.

A succession of Ontario governments has maintained that public support was promised only for those grades existing when the deal was struck - that is, elementary schools.

Mr. Davis has emphasized that the new direction reflects a shift in political perspective. It is "not compelled by or founded upon a reinterpretation of old statutes or jurisprudence," he said in the Legislature. "The letter of the law cannot substitute for common sense."

The impact will not be clear until students return to classes in September. Public school supporters see major upheavals, while Catholic groups predict minimal disruption.

Ontario's Roman Catholic separate schools now receive government support up to Grade 10 and charge tuition fees, ranging from about \$800 to \$1,200 a year, for grades 11 to 13. Public aid is to be phased in a year at a time, allowing the schools to eliminate fees for Grade 11 this September.

The Catholic schools normally lose their students to the public school system at the beginning of high school. The schools had about 40,000 students in Grade 8 last year and only 21,000 in Grade 9.

The new public aid could keep 7,000 more Catholic students in the system this September, the Catholic teachers' association estimates, creating as many as 450 new jobs. Public school teachers predict the impact will be more than three times as great, resulting in the loss of 1,550 public school jobs.

The provincial commission charged with advising the Government has an unusual role to play. Normally, members of a government commission are impartial arbiters of issues, appointed to give advice on a course of action.

But the eight members of this commission each has a long history of involvement in education, and all, except Mr. Newnham, are closely associated with either the public or separate school system.

The strong biases were evident in recent hearings. Public school supporters - such as John Fraser, Peel's public school director of education - would mention the threats to the public school system. Separate school supporters - such as Edward Nelligan, former Metro Separate School Board director of education - would express concerns about the impact on the Catholic atmosphere of the schools.

The Government is not looking to the commission to give advice on public policy. The political decision has already been made. The commission's role is mainly administrative.

Despite the lack of a firm estimate of the shift in students, commissioners spent three months getting ready for the game. During their hearings, several school boards and teachers' groups as well as business groups and parents gave their versions of Mr. Davis's commitment.

Two entirely different portraits were drawn for the commission.

Catholic politicians, educators and administrators say the new financing arrangement will only mean the addition of a few grades to a well-established*school*system and the changes will be minimal.

They emphasize the unique aspects of a religion-dominated*school*and argue for protection of the system's Catholic nature. They also press for the rapid transfer of public*school*buildings.

Public*school*supporters see massive upheavals in their system. They attack the announcement of controversial changes without consultation and implementation without*legislation.*

They raise concerns about restrictions limiting non-Catholic access to the separate*schools,*the impact on public*school*programs and the potential disruption if local*schools*were transferred to the Catholic*school*system to accommodate the expansion.

"But, Mr. Davis also said . . ." the commissioners would frequently interject during the hearings.

The commissioners repeatedly came back to two central problems: how to reconcile the expansion of the Catholic*school*system in areas where the public system will clearly be put in jeopardy by the expansion; and how to balance protection of the Catholic nature of the confessional*schools*with the right of non-discriminatory public access to a*school*system supported by public taxes.

The competing rights have presented a stark contrast in small communities with many families who speak French as a first language. The*schools*would be subdivided into four unworkable units - with classes for anglophone Catholics, francophone Catholics, public anglophone and public francophone children - to satisfy everyone's demands.

Ontario had 134*schools*with fewer than 600 students in 1983, although not all those*schools*would be under the same pressure to subdivide. Ontario high*school*principals have noted that financing separate*schools*in those areas will inevitably restrict programs in the public*school*system.

Dan Chorney, president of the Northern Ontario*School*Trustees Association, has said that many northern boards of education operate only one secondary*school,*only one English and one French secondary*school,*or only a few secondary*schools*geographically far apart.

Those*schools*would have difficulty continuing to offer a full range of high*school*programs if a substantial number of Catholic students did not join public*school*students for the higher grades.

Public*school*boards with a francophone high*school*have a unique problem. More than 90 per cent of francophone families are Catholic. Nevertheless, francophones see the extension of public aid as a mixed blessing.

Mr. Davis, as education minister in the late sixties, allowed public*school*boards to establish French high*schools.*The move effectively killed several private high*schools*for francophones run by the Roman Catholic Church. The Roman Catholic separate*school*boards have seized this opportunity to restake their claims to francophone high*schools.*

But the francophone community, with 25,000 children in the public*school*system, has not been as eager. There have been many battles in towns and cities across Ontario in the past 15 years to establish those*schools.*The areas are not prepared to give up modern, well-equipped*schools*without firm commitments that the separate system will offer the same facilities and programs.

They also do not want the francophone community to be split during the three-year phase-in of support. The francophone*schools*should be

transferred en bloc - teachers, staff, students and facilities - and compromises must be made for non-Catholics and Catholics who do not want to participate in the religious life of the schools, francophone spokesmen say.

Those demands create problems for the separate school system. Where will it find the money to run the schools? And if the francophones are excused from religious courses and mass, will anglophone students demand similar treatment?

Jane Scott, president of the Ontario Public School Trustees Association, said the sudden drop in the number of students in the public school system will force many public schools across the province to reduce the number of optional courses, such as music and art. In some areas of the province, it could limit even the offering of compulsory core courses at different levels of difficulty.

Meanwhile, Roman Catholic spokesmen have been walking a thin line, trying to deal with parents who expect the separate school system to be run by Catholics for Catholics while also trying to be sensitive to others who expect that non-Catholic teachers and students will not be refused access to the schools.

The Catholic community is clearly divided within itself. Emmett Cardinal Carter, the Archbishop of Toronto, gave assurances to Mr. Davis before the announcement that access for non-Catholics would not be a problem. Nevertheless, some bishops are more rigid and insist on imposing quotas on the number of non-Catholics.

Realizing that public aid is dependent on provisions to accommodate displaced public school teachers, regardless of religion, many school boards have shifted their efforts and now draw distinctions on working conditions. Some boards want to give public school teachers who are Catholic the first crack at the new jobs; others want to discourage non-Catholic teachers from transferring by restricting the chances for promotions.

The debate over open access for non-Catholic students has also shifted. Non-Catholic students will be welcome where space is available, but almost all school boards insist that the non-Catholic students must participate in religious classes and ceremonies, exempt only from receiving the sacrament.

Cardinal Carter is one of the few Catholic leaders who feels non-Catholics could attend the schools but be exempt from religious instruction.

However, their most immediate problems are not those dealing with access. The Catholic boards are scrambling to figure out where to put all the new students and how to expand their programs.

Like children in a candy store, some separate school boards wandered through their neighborhoods shortly after Mr. Davis's announcement and picked out the public school buildings they expected to take over. The aggressive approach did not win any friends.

Tom Reilly, spokesman for Ontario's Catholic education groups, says no one expects any schools to be transferred by this September. Unless the Government grants exemptions from the procedures, people who live across the street from the public schools will have a chance to speak at a public hearing before the schools are turned over.

For many Catholic groups, the dispute over access for non-Catholic teachers and students was a forerunner to a challenge over representation on the Roman Catholic school boards. If non-Catholic students are allowed to attend Catholic schools, then non-Catholics will be given the choice of

paying their*school*taxes to the Catholic boards.

Non-Catholic ratepayers will not accept taxation without representation.

Once non-Catholics can elect trustees, the Catholic groups wonder what guarantees Catholic parents will have that the*schools*will remain Catholic.

The commission, with its powers limited to giving advice, must rely on local solutions to solve any conflicts. Without co-operation between the boards, the commission must decide what Mr. Davis said and hope the Government will eventually back them up.

ADDED SEARCH TERMS: Ontario government grants education finance separate *schools*Roman Catholic Church

850770244 MON MAR.18,1985 PAGE: M1

BYLINE: ROBERT MATAS

CLASS:*News*

DATELINE:

WORDS: 636

**** Norton asked to drop religious teaching rules ****

By ROBERT MATAS

Ontario regulations permitting religious indoctrination in public*schools* may contravene provisions of the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms and should be revoked, the Canadian Civil Liberties Association says.

The regulations enable some*school*boards to promote the tenets of Christianity and in some cases instruct their students to indoctrinate others in Christian beliefs, Alan Borovoy, the association's general counsel, says in a seven-page letter to Ontario Education Minister Keith Norton.

"To the extent that Christian interpretations of scripture are taught as the official truth for our public*schools,*the non-Christian interpretations are relegated to a secondary position," the letter says.

The religious education program appears to violate the Charter's guarantee of freedom of conscience and religion and the Ontario Human Rights Code's prohibition against discrimination on the basis of religion or creed, Mr. Borovoy says.

The program also appears to violate the Charter's guarantee of equality under the law which, when it comes into force on April 17, will prohibit unequal treatment on the basis of religion, he says.

Mr. Borovoy refers to religious education in*schools*run by four small rural boards of education: Elgin County board in Southwestern Ontario, the Norfolk board in the vicinity of Simcoe, the Frontenac County board in the Kingston area and the Northumberland and Newcastle board in the Port Hope-Cobourg area.

The teachers' guide for religious instruction in Elgin County provides a lesson plan for Easter that concentrates on instructing students "that the believer's task is giving the gospel to all the world."

The lesson begins by showing "the population of the world and the number who are professing Christians. If we were to count the number who have never heard of Jesus it would take 20 years without stopping.

*school*system province-wide - if any jobs are lost as a result of public aid to Roman Catholic high*schools.*

The Ontario Secondary*School*Teachers Federation went on record at its annual meeting yesterday as supporting public financing only for one public*school*system. The teachers decided to oppose any Government action to provide money to*schools*"which promote a specific*denominational*or political point of view."

They also want to meet Premier Frank Miller and Education Minister Keith Norton before the end of April to hear what they intend to do about aid to Roman Catholic high*schools.*

Former premier William Davis announced in June that the Government would finance a Roman Catholic high*school*system starting in September. However, to date the Government has not brought in any*legislation*or passed any regulation to enact the policy.

Rod Albert, the federation's president, said the teachers are not concerned solely with their jobs. "We're out to influence Government policy," Mr. Albert said.

The teachers are concerned about further fragmentation of society along religious lines and the impact of the proposed changes on non-Catholic students, especially in areas of the province where there is only one high*school,*he said.

The teachers also expect many programs in the public*school*system will be curtailed once public aid is provided to Roman Catholic high*schools* and students shift out of the public*school*system, he added.

Mr. Albert said teachers are frustrated with the provincial commission appointed to advise the Government on implementing the policy. Commission chairman William Newnham has said the commission is only responsible for implementation, not for the Government's decision.

The teachers want to speak to someone who is accountable, Mr. Albert said.

ADDED SEARCH TERMS: Ontario teachers education finance separate*schools* Roman Catholic Church

850390159 FRI FEB.08,1985 PAGE: M5
BYLINE: ROBERT MATAS
CLASS:*News*
DATELINE: THUNDER BAY, Ont. WORDS: 973

** Probers criticize teachers **

** over RC financing stance **

By ROBERT MATAS

Globe and Mail Reporter

THUNDER BAY, Ont. - Members of a provincial education commission were harshly critical yesterday of a high*school*teachers group that wants the provincial Government to cancel plans to extend public aid to Roman Catholic high*schools.*

Four of the eight commissioners ripped into the submission by the Ontario Secondary*School*Teachers Federation, suggesting that the high*school*teachers were too emotional and had misrepresented conditions in

the Thunder Bay*school*system.

The teachers' federation was the 127th group to make a submission since last November when the commission began to hold public hearings.

Occasionally, a commissioner has challenged a group on its recommendations or probed for inconsistencies. But throughout the proceedings, the commissioners have made a point of thanking, and in many instances complimenting, the groups for their submissions, regardless of their point of view.

Commission chairman William T. Newnham denied in an interview that the commissioners were hostile to the public*school*teachers' group.

The teachers made a political statement that was filled with innuendo and unfounded allegations, Mr. Newnham said.

"We just wanted to straighten out some misconceptions," he said.

Gerry Carlson, president of the Thunder Bay division of the teachers' federation, began his submission by attacking the Government for plans which he described as arbitrary and undemocratic.

He criticized the commission for "proceeding with such haste as to make adequate planning impossible and appropriate public discussion unattainable."

Mr. Carlson maintained that the*schools*have recently experienced "a multitude of shocks," and asked how many more "experiments, adjustments, reversals and gratuitous changes can (they) absorb before they collapse?"

The decision to extend financing should be cancelled and a public *school*system serving all*denominations*should be maintained, he said.

Mr. Carlson also raised concerns about the increased costs to pay for two education systems, reduction in programs once the public*school*system has fewer students, loss of teachers' jobs and substantial differences in contract provisions for public and Catholic teachers.

Commissioner Twyla Hendry, who is also a public*school*trustee in Waterloo County, said during the hearings she was disappointed at the emotional approach adopted by the teachers.

The teachers' group was "jumping all over the commission about things over which we can do nothing. We are here with a mandate to implement," she said.

She also noted that the group was raising concerns about the disproportionate impact of the changes on women teachers. However, women were not part of the four-member delegation to the commission, she said.

Commissioner Frank Gilhooly, a former chairman of the Ottawa separate *school*board, criticized the teachers for talking about jobs that would disappear in the public*school*system without also noting that jobs will be created in the Catholic*school*system. Displaced public*school*teachers will transfer into the Catholic system, he said.

Mr. Gilhooly also accused the teachers' group of distorting the importance of the*constitutional*challenge to the new financing arrangements. The group stated that the Government's action will likely be ruled unconstitutional, but the case is not even in*court*yet, Mr. Gilhooly said.

Commissioner John Fraser, a public*school*director, criticized the group for suggesting that not enough time was available for debate.

The commission had expected to hold two days of hearings but not enough groups wanted to make submissions. Mr. Fraser said he was concerned that the commission was receiving presentations only from teacher and*school*board groups and not from parents, businessmen or ordinary people in Thunder Bay.

The teachers said they had spent "thousands" of hours preparing the

submissions and were insulted that the commissioners felt they were being emotional about the issues.

Roy Piovesana, a member of the delegation, said the teachers had given a great deal of thought to their presentation.

"We tried to deal with the issues and ideas in a very serious way . . . but the questions (from the commissioners) did not grapple with those ideas," he said.

Teachers and members of the Lakehead Public Board of Education said later they were surprised by the commission's aggressive response to the submission.

*School*trustee Jean Robinson described the commission as nasty. "Their job is to listen and not to destroy," she said.

Mr. Carlson said he felt the group was unfairly treated. The commission did not deal with specific issues and attacked them on the basis of general statements, he said.

"We challenged them first, and by challenging them in their role, they struck back," he added.

However, Larry O'Brien, an official with the Lakehead District Roman Catholic Separate*School*Board, said he was pleased to see the knuckle-rapping.

The public*school*teachers talk about the anxieties created by extending Government financing to Catholic*schools,*but they are the ones creating the anxiety by their unsubstantiated statements, he said.

Earlier, the commission was told that the public and Roman Catholic *school*boards were working together to develop a plan for implementation of the new financing arrangements.

The Roman Catholic*school*system in Thunder Bay expects to expand its Grade 9 classes by about 200 students this September, once Government aid is available for secondary*school*programs in separate*schools.*

However, the change has sparked little concern so far, mainly because the Catholic system can accommodate the additional students in its current facilities.

Within the next five or six years, the Catholic board expects to grow by between 1,000 and 2,000 students. Declining enrolment in the public board during the next few years is expected to empty out a public*school* building which could be transferred to the Catholic system.

James Griffis, chairman of the public board in Thunder Bay, said the trustees feel they can ensure the public*school*system does not become second rate as a result of the changes.

The commission will hold hearings in Ottawa next week and Toronto in the following two weeks.

ADDED SEARCH TERMS: Ontario education government grant education finance separate*schools* Roman Catholic Church

.....

850220241 TUE JAN.22,1985 PAGE: M1

BYLINE: ROBERT MATAS

CLASS:*News*

DATELINE:

WORDS: 643

.....

**** Poll says 2 of 3 ****
**** favor public aid ****
**** for RC*schools****

By ROBERT MATAS

Government aid to Roman Catholic high*schools*is favored by two of every three Ontario residents, according to a poll completed for the Ontario Secondary*School*Teachers Federation.

However, 79 per cent of those polled say the*denominational*schools* should be required to hire non-Catholic teachers and 89 per cent oppose allowing the Catholic*school*boards to hire only Catholic secretaries and custodians.

The poll also reaffirmed other recent surveys showing that the provincial Conservative Party is riding a wave of popularity and that unemployment and youth unemployment are considered by far the most important issues facing the province.

In response to a question on voter preference, 43 per cent chose Progressive Conservative, 21 per cent chose Liberal and 18 per cent picked the New Democratic Party.

Forty per cent identified unemployment as the most important issue and 11 per cent of the respondents chose youth unemployment. Every other issue was mentioned by 5 per cent of the respondents or less.

The \$30,000 survey, released by the teachers federation at a news conference yesterday, was conducted by Decima Research Ltd.

Decima is the pollster for Ontario Conservative leadership candidate Larry Grossman, the provincial Conservative Party and the federal Conservative Party. The research firm polled 760 people from across Ontario during the first week of January.

The poll also found that 40 per cent believed the Ontario Government spends too little on education while 15 per cent felt it spends too much.

Seventy-two per cent said additional money needed to finance the Catholic high*school*system should come from the public*schools;*70 per cent want one*school*board for both the public and Roman Catholic*school* system; and 84 per cent want public debate on the whole issue of public aid to Catholic*schools.*

The poll revealed widespread ignorance about the announcement of changes in education and about the current system of financing Ontario's *school*system. In response to a question about whether they had heard about any particular changes to the education system over the past six months, 60 per cent said no.

The pollsters also found that 38 per cent believed the Government already financed the Catholic*school*system to the end of Grade 13, and an additional 22 per cent did not know that Catholic elementary*schools* already receive government funds.

Only 24 per cent of those polled correctly answered that public funds are provided to Catholic*schools*for elementary and junior high*school* grades.

The poll was released as part of a campaign by the public*school* teachers federation to fight provincial Government changes in education financing.

Premier William Davis has announced that public aid will be available for Catholic high*schools*beginning this September. Several groups, including the teachers federation, have urged the Government to delay implementation for at least a year.

The Metro Toronto*School*Board, representing six public*school*boards in Metro Toronto, has threatened to challenge the*constitutionality*of the

new policy once the Government introduces*legislation*to bring the changes into effect.

Malcolm Buchanan, federation president, told reporters he believed the poll accurately reflects public opinion about the issue.

About 1,100 people have indicated their support for the teachers federation position directly by sending in a coupon that was part of an advertisement critical of Mr. Davis's decision, he said.

Public aid to Catholic high*schools*has been "the silent issue" of the Conservative leadership campaign, Mr. Buchanan added. People are concerned about the issue, but the four leadership contenders have been reluctant to discuss it, he said.

The poll results are considered to be accurate for the population of Ontario as a whole within plus or minus 3.6 percentage points 95 out of 100 times.

However, the pollsters also caution that the survey is not a prediction and is designed to measure public opinion at a specific point in time.

ADDED SEARCH TERMS: Ontario government grants education finance public opinion polls Roman Catholic Church separate*schools*

850220251 TUE JAN.22,1985 PAGE: M2
BYLINE: ROBERT MATAS
CLASS:*News*
DATELINE: WORDS: 443

**** Teacher seniority on transfers backed ****

By ROBERT MATAS

Ontario's Roman Catholic*school*boards must maintain the salary and seniority of public*school*teachers who are transferred into Catholic*schools*as a result of public financing for the*denominational*schools,*the Newnham commission on public aid to Catholic high*schools*has decided.

The Ontario Catholic Supervisory Officers Association had urged the provincial commission, headed by retired community college president William T. Newnham, to allow boards to put experienced public*school*teachers on probation when they were transferred.

A Roman Catholic board would be unfair to its own teachers if, for instance, a non-Catholic teacher with nine years experience was transferred into the Catholic system and took precedence over a Catholic teacher who had been in the system for eight years, the Catholic administrators have said.

However, the provincial commission on implementation of plans for public aid to Catholic high*schools*notified Catholic*school*boards this week that the boards cannot follow their administrators' proposal.

Teachers collect seniority because they are performing satisfactorily or better, Mr. Newnham said in an interview yesterday. Public*school*teachers who are transferred as a result of Government action should have their seniority protected, he added.

The guideline is part of a four-page memo outlining the commission's criteria for assessing plans for secondary*school*programs. The memo is

advice to the*school*boards on behalf of the minister, Mr. Newnham said.

The commission also served notice that a public*school*board will not necessarily stop implementation by refusing to co-operate. The Metro Toronto*School*Board has decided to suspend its preparations until the *courts*determine if the changes violate the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms.

Nevertheless, the commission decided it will review plans submitted by a Catholic board for a secondary*school*system, even if the affected public board does not participate in the process.

The commission also decided that admission of non-Catholic pupils must be guided by "a positive policy". Mr. Newnham said this guideline means that the boards must accept non-Catholic students if space is available.

The memo does not deal with the involvement of non-Catholic teachers in the Catholic system. Mr. Newnham said the commission decided to leave the issue for Catholic boards to resolve locally with the public boards.

Premier William Davis announced that public aid to the end of Grade 13 in Catholic*schools*would be available, starting with Grade 11 in September. The Government now provides funds for Catholic*schools*up to Grade 10. Public*school*teachers have maintained that the change in Government financing will mean public*school*enrolment will drop by more than 100,000 and teaching positions will decrease by about 8,000.

ADDED SEARCH TERMS: Ontario teachers separate*schools*education Roman Catholic Church

850120294 SAT JAN.12,1985 PAGE: P17

BYLINE: ROBERT MATAS

CLASS:*News*

DATELINE:

WORDS: 490

**** Public*schools*in peril, teachers warn ****

By ROBERT MATAS

Ontario's public secondary*school*teachers are launching an aggressive campaign to bring together parents and taxpayers concerned about the prospect of Government funds for a Roman Catholic secondary*school*system.

The Ontario Secondary*School*Teachers Federation is placing advertisements in every Ontario daily newspaper, beginning next week, warning readers that the new Government policy on financing Catholic *schools*places the future of the province's education system in doubt.

The teachers predict 100 public secondary*schools*will be closed and 8,000 public high*school*teaching positions will disappear once students shift into the new Catholic high*school*system.

Government funds for this parallel high*school*system will also drastically reduce the number and variety of programs in the public system, particularly in northern and rural Ontario, they say.

The teachers' federation is also circulating a petition demanding that the*Legislature*debate the issue of public financing for Catholic high *schools*before the Catholic*school*boards begin implementing the historic changes.

The Government must allow a*legislative*committee to hold public

hearings on the issue "to allow the people to be heard," Malcolm Buchanan, federation president, said yesterday in an interview.

"There is an understood convention in democratic societies which respect the rule of law that, before fundamental changes in public policy are implemented, such matters should be debated in the*Legislative* Assembly," the petition says.

Some boards of education have already identified entire high*schools* that will be closed and transferred to the Catholic system, possibly as early as September. Meanwhile, Catholic*school*boards are already hiring staff to run the new high*school*programs.

Premier William Davis shocked the province seven months ago by reversing more than 100 years of Ontario history and announcing that the Government would finance a Roman Catholic high*school*system. Since Confederation in 1867, the Ontario Government had agreed to finance a *denominational*system only at the elementary-school level.

The Government has appointed a provincial commission to implement plans for extension of the Catholic system. Government funds will be available for Catholic*schools*this September, but the Government has not passed any *legislation*to permit the changes or prepared any working documents on the impact of the new policy or the method for implementing it.

Mr. Buchanan said the advertisement and petition campaign is intended to bring the teachers' concerns to the public's attention. The teachers want to raise public interest in the issues, he said.

The advertisement begins by acknowledging that it is difficult to debate Mr. Davis' decision without being accused of prejudice.

Nevertheless, the federation presses on. Taxpayers of Ontario will be compelled to pay for an expensive duplication of services and programs while students of all religions will be adversely affected by cancellation of programs, the federation maintains.

The federation is seeking reader support for a new structure to administer education in Ontario: an umbrella organization that would be responsible for the operation of public, Catholic and francophone*schools.*
ADDED SEARCH TERMS: Ontario education finance teachers separate*schools*
Roman Catholic Church

.....

843360320 SAT DEC.01,1984 PAGE: P1

BYLINE: ROBERT MATAS

CLASS:*News*

DATELINE:

WORDS: 581

.....

** Hearings on new financing **

** Abandon seniority, **

** non-RC teachers told **

By ROBERT MATAS

Experienced teachers who are transferred into Ontario's Roman Catholic *school*system as a result of public financing for separate high*schools* should be prepared to abandon all seniority and accept a job on a probationary basis, a provincial commission has been told.

Adopting a hard line on involvement of non-Catholics in their*school*

system, Catholic educators and administrators also insisted yesterday that Catholic*school*boards must retain the power to set standards concerning the lifestyle and religious commitment of non-Catholic teachers they hire.

The Catholic*school*is a community of faith and common bond supported by a teaching staff committed to the philosophy of Catholic education, Anthony Truscello, president of the Ontario Catholic Supervisory Officers' Association, told the commission.

Spokesmen from the association, the Catholic High*School*Commission and the Ontario Catholic Secondary*School*Principals Association also insisted that non-Catholic students who attend a publicly financed Roman Catholic high*school*must be prepared to attend religious classes and participate in almost all religious observances.

During the second day of public hearings, members of the provincial commission on implementation of the new Government policy also heard from teachers, trustees and administrators in the non-denominational*school* system who demanded that universal access and a full range of programs be guaranteed in both systems.

Spokesmen for the Ontario Public*School*Trustees Association and the Association of Large*School*Boards of Ontario also pushed for a total or partial delay of implementation of the new financing arrangements in order to provide more time for transferring of staff and buildings and for development of*school*programs.

Premier William Davis announced last June that Government funds would be provided for Catholic high*schools*on the same basis as the public *school*system, beginning next September with Grade 11. Public financing of Catholic high*schools*currently ends at Grade 10.

Public hearings are continuing until the end of February. The commission is expected to submit recommendations on implementation of the policy as soon as possible.

Mr. Truscello noted that Mr. Davis had said the Catholic boards must hire non-Catholic teachers "and once hired, must be allowed to earn tenure." He interpreted these comments to mean that the teachers would not come with any seniority.

Mr. Truscello also maintained that a board would be unfair to its own teachers if, for instance, the seniority of a non-Catholic teacher with nine years of experience was recognized. The non-Catholic teacher could then take precedence over a Catholic teacher who had served the board for eight years, he said.

The association suggested that teachers who are acceptable to the Catholic boards and decide to transfer voluntarily be permitted to retain seniority.

The Catholic High*School*Commission, established by Emmett Cardinal Carter to deal with Catholic*schools*in his archdiocese, suggested a procedure for transferring teachers who become redundant as a result of a shift of Catholic students away from the non-denominational system.

First, Roman Catholic teachers who actively participate in their faith should be requested to transfer on a voluntary basis. Second, non-Catholic teachers whose philosophy of education is compatible with the board's philosophy should be requested to voluntarily transfer.

Rev. Leonard O'Malley, chairman of the Catholic commission, also proposed that*legislation*be introduced to prohibit Catholic students currently in the public system from transferring into the Catholic system in the next two years. The*legislation*would ease fears in the public system about a mass exodus of Catholic students, he said.

ADDED SEARCH TERMS: Ontario education finance separate*schools*teachers

843280231 FRI NOV.23,1984 PAGE: M1
BYLINE: ROBERT MATAS
CLASS:*News*
DATELINE: WORDS: 623

** Postpone **
** financing **
** for RCs: **
** teachers **

By ROBERT MATAS

Ontario's secondary*school*teachers have demanded a delay of at least one year in Government plans to finance Catholic high*schools.*

In an attack against Premier William Davis's scheme to finance Catholic high*schools*on the same basis as non-denominational*schools,*the 35,000-member Ontario Secondary*School*Teachers Federation has maintained that the Government is violating "the spirit of the rule of law" by allowing *school*boards to begin planning now for the changes.

"Before fundamental principles are altered, the proposed changes must be considered fully by the elected representatives of the people in the *Legislature,*"the federation said in a submission yesterday to the provincial commission on implementation of public financing for Catholic high*schools.*

To proceed without waiting until the*Legislature*can deal with the changes "would deny the people of Ontario due process in the conduct of their affairs," the federation said.

If the Ontario Government does not agree to the delay by Christmas, the federation will become involved in the provincial Conservative party leadership race, federation president Malcolm Buchanan added later in an interview.

The four leadership contenders will be pressed to support "ironclad *legislative*guarantees" that public*school*teachers will not be adversely affected by the new policy, he said.

The federation, backed by a special \$1-million fund, will also launch an information campaign to tell parents about the dangers to students and educational programs that will result in the public*school*system, he added..

Mr. Davis has announced that the Government will provide funds for Catholic high*schools,*beginning next September with Grade 11. Government aid now stops at the end of Grade 10.

Ontario's Roman Catholic*school*boards are beginning to draw up plans for extension of their*school*systems. The commission is holding public hearings until the end of February and is expected to submit some recommendations in the spring on how to implement the scheme.

William Newnham, commission chairman, said yesterday he personally would not favor a delay. "It would create chaos. You'd have 38 per cent of the province's population up in arms," he said.

Nevertheless, the eight-member commission will consider the

federation's request to recommend a delay, he added.

The federation began its presentation to the commission on a belligerent note. Since the founding of the federation in 1919, Mr. Buchanan said, teachers have opposed extending financing to *denominational* or private *schools.* "And that remains our position today," he added.

Mr. Buchanan said declining enrolment and Mr. Davis's plan for Catholic *schools* could mean the loss of as many as 11,700 jobs in the public *school* system.

The federation estimated that 132,000 students and 100 secondary *schools* could be transferred to the separate *school* system by 1990. "The Premier's edict will savage Ontario's excellent public *school* system," he said.

He also warned that the federation believes that *constitutional* protections for the Catholic system do not apply to the high *schools.* The protections enable Catholic elementary *schools* to discriminate on the basis of religion in their hiring.

The federation is prepared to *appeal* to the *courts* to protect any teacher who faces discrimination those grounds, Mr. Buchanan added.

Rod Albert, a federation vice-president, outlined several problems that could be created in the public *school* system and, in response, proposed a unified *school* system responsible for both Catholic and public *schools.*

Commissioner Edmund Nelligan, a former director of education for the Metro Separate *School* Board in Metro Toronto, challenged Mr. Buchanan to clarify the federation's intentions. "I'm puzzled if you are out to scuttle the Government policy or out to help it," he said.

Mr. Buchanan said the federation is prepared to work with the commission on provincial guidelines to ensure that teachers, students and programs are adequately protected.

ADDED SEARCH TERMS: Ontario government grants education finance teachers separate *schools* Roman Catholic Church

843260241 WED NOV.21,1984 PAGE: P5
CLASS: *News* SOURCE: CP
DATELINE: Montreal P2 WORDS: 276

**** Quebec *school* fight goes to *court* ****
MONTREAL (CP) - The Quebec Association of Protestant *School* Boards and four member boards have gone to *court* to challenge the Parti Quebecois Government's right to replace Catholic and Protestant *school* boards with French and English ones.

The application filed in Quebec Superior *Court* yesterday contends that the Government does not have the *constitutional* power to confiscate the *schools* and other assets of the existing Protestant boards for the use of a non-denominational *school* system.

Association president John Simms called the *court* action against Bill 3 "the opening volley in the fight to preserve the Protestant community" by insisting on rights guaranteed under the 1867 British North America Act.

Education Minister Yves Berube has said he is determined to see Bill 3

become law before Christmas.

Mr. Simms said the boards will seek an*injunction*against the bill if the Government goes ahead with plans to pass it by Christmas before the *court*hands down a decision.

'We told the Government (in 1982) that, unless it referred the *constitutionality*of its proposal to the Quebec*Court*of*Appeal,*we would go to*court,'*Mr. Simms said. 'We meant what we said.'

The new bill would classify*schools*as English or French rather than Protestant or Catholic and would convert 250*denominational*boards into about 150 regional boards overseeing elementary and secondary*schools.*

The only exceptions would be Catholic and Protestant boards in Montreal and Quebec City, which are protected by the BNA Act, but their boundaries would shrink to what they were at the time of Confederation, 117 years ago.

An earlier draft of the*legislation*was scrapped last spring in face of almost universal opposition.

ADDED SEARCH TERMS: Quebec bilingualism education policy

843240285 MON NOV.19,1984 PAGE: M6

BYLINE: ROBERT MATAS

CLASS:*News*

DATELINE:

WORDS: 1074

**** Acceptance of non-Catholics raises fears ****
**** Strings tied to*school*financing making some RCs uneasy ****

By ROBERT MATAS

Ontario's Roman Catholics would have preferred to win public financing for their*school*system without being forced to allow non-Catholic teachers and students into Catholic*schools.*

While Catholic community leaders are doing their best to make Government conditions for public financing more palatable to parents who want an exclusively Catholic*school*environment for their children, some parents are having trouble accepting those conditions.

Greg Teskey believes his children are*constitutionally*entitled to a Roman Catholic education in a publicly financed Ontario*school.*

A graduate of Ontario's Roman Catholic*school*system who now has five *school-age*children, Mr. Teskey believes the Catholic community has the right to a Catholic education as part of the Confederation deal.

Ontario Premier William Davis promised in June to provide public financing for Catholic high*schools,*beginning next September.

Ontario's Catholic bishops, parish priests, several*school*trustees, administrators and principals have urged parents to rally around Mr. Davis, claiming they have found ways to cope with conditions requiring the hiring of non-Catholic teachers and possibly admitting non-Catholic students.

Nevertheless, many parents are not easily persuaded. As children and as adults, their lives have been intricately involved with the*schools.*They have made sacrifices for the sake of Catholic education.

They already receive Government funds for education up to Grade 10 and

are not prepared to compromise on their way of life to pay for only three more grades.

The parents want Catholic*schools*with Catholic teachers and Catholic students.

The Government should provide money and curriculum guidelines, but should not dictate who is hired or what happens in the*schools,*several parents said in interviews.

Mr. Teskey said many parents are honestly and legitimately concerned. "Yes, I am thankful (for the financing promise), but I would like my questions answered. I'm not looking for confrontation."

Carmel Gaffiero, with three children in the Catholic*school*system, said he is reluctant to place his trust solely on a political statement made by Mr. Davis, who firmly rejected public financing for Catholic *schools*13 years earlier and who announced his retirement a few months after his statement on Catholic education.

"All we have is a statement in the*Legislature.*Something is missing, don't you think?" he said after parents from the St. Clair Avenue West area met recently with a Catholic*school*board official.

"We don't know what this means for our*schools.*But I'd sooner pay the tuition fee, no matter what the sacrifice, than see the disintegration of the Catholic*school*system," he said.

Catholic parents are not just concerned about education, he added. They are fighting to protect a philosophy of life. "If I can manage to keep my kids away from drugs, sex and those things, then I'll sacrifice whatever I can. To me, the Catholic*schools*offer my children just a bit more protection."

Some teachers in the Catholic*school*system share parents' concerns and feel the atmosphere would be changed by allowing non-Catholics into the *schools.*

"It would seem like a double standard. Sending children from a Catholic family to a Catholic*school*and having a non-Catholic at the front of the class would defeat the whole purpose," said a teacher from Regina Pacis Secondary*School*in Downsview.

But other teachers, like the Catholic leaders, feel the non-Catholic influence will be minimal and worth accepting in exchange for more money and better resources.

Nike Simone, who teaches English and geography at St. Basil-The-Great Secondary*School*in northwest Toronto, said non-Catholic teachers would make a difference if more than one or two non-Catholics were employed in a *school.*The program and style of teaching could change, he said.

Nevertheless, public financing is necessary. The*schools*do not have proper*school*buildings or classroom material to ensure top quality education for an increasing number of children, Mr. Simone said.

Patricia Burgess, who teaches at St. Joseph's College and has a child in Grade 13 at a Catholic*school,*said she is not concerned about non-Catholic teachers.

Non-Catholic teachers who apply to teach in the Catholic system understand what the Catholic*schools*are trying to do, she said. A non-Catholic teacher would enter with an understanding of Catholic education philosophy.

Frank Musso, principal of St. Augustine of Canterbury Roman Catholic elementary*school*in Downsview, said the biggest challenge for the Catholic community, if non-Catholic teachers and students come into the high*schools,*may be to educate the parents and show that the Catholic system will not be watered down.

The danger posed by opening the doors to all is minimized by many Catholic leaders, who assume a very limited interpretation of the Government-imposed conditions.

The schools will be required to hire teachers from outside the Catholic community only if it can be shown that teachers lost jobs because of the Government policy on Catholic education, they said in recent interviews.

The requirement does not apply to a specific teacher who lost a job. If a public board lays off some teachers, the Catholic board may be required to hire a comparable number of teachers. But the board may choose to hire Catholic teachers first, they argue.

Frank Clifford, director of the Waterloo County Roman Catholic Separate School Board, sought to appease parents' concerns about non-Catholic students by suggesting that universal access means access to school programs, not to a particular school.

The Waterloo Catholic board has bought services from the neighboring public board, such as program for hard-of-hearing students. Non-Catholic students could make comparable arrangements to participate in a specific Catholic school program, he said.

Education Minister Bette Stephenson has suggested in an informal conversation that school boards adopt a code of expectation, Mr. Musso said. She told him the Government-appointed commission dealing with the new Catholic education policy may establish guidelines setting out the nature of Catholic schools.

Non-Catholic teachers and pupils entering Catholic schools would know what to expect.

John Fauteux, president of the Ontario English Catholic Teachers Federation, has suggested that pressure to lay off teachers in the public system could be defused if Catholic teachers in the non-denominational high school system switch to the Catholic system.

Many Catholic high school teachers chose the public system for job security, Mr. Fauteux said. They felt the Catholic high school system was "built on egg shells" and would not survive for 20 more years.

ADDED SEARCH TERMS: Roman Catholic Church Ontario education finance separate schools

843220276 SAT NOV.17,1984 PAGE: P11
CLASS: *News* SOURCE: CP
DATELINE: Montreal PQ WORDS: 94

** ACROSS CANADA **
** Protestants **
** challenging **
** school bill **

MONTREAL (CP) - Quebec's Protestant schools are preparing a constitutional challenge to the province's new school reorganization bill, arguing that sections of the proposed legislation are outside the power of the Quebec Government. The application in Quebec Superior Court will ask for a declaratory judgment from the court on the constitutionality of certain clauses in Bill 3, the proposed legislation under which schools

would be classified as English or French rather than Protestant or Catholic. The new bill would convert the present 250*denominational*boards into about 150 regional boards administering elementary and secondary *schools.*

ADDED SEARCH TERMS: Quebec bilingualism education law English language

.....

843220291 SAT NOV.17,1984 PAGE: P21

BYLINE: ROBERT MATAS

CLASS:*News*

DATELINE: TIMMINS, Ont.

WORDS: 577

.....

** Former*legislator*says **

** RC shools financing **

** angers many trustees **

By ROBERT MATAS

TIMMINS, Ont. - Many public*school*trustees are angry and disenchanted with the Ontario Government's plan to extend public financing to Catholic high*schools,*the chairman of the Timmins Board of Education says.

William Ferrier, a former New Democratic Party member of the provincial *Legislature,*said discontent among the trustees could make implementation of the financing scheme difficult.

The*school*trustees are expected to be involved in discussions on how local*school*boards will put the provincial program into place.

"If they (the trustees) are going to go into this, they are going kicking and screaming," Mr. Ferrier said in an interview.

Premier William Davis reversed his personal position and the Government's policy on public financing five months ago. The Catholic high *schools*will begin receiving funds next September on the same basis as the non-denominational*school*system.

Mr. Ferrier said many trustees and others in the education system are still unhappy about the Premier's abrupt and unexpected reversal.

The Government wants the Catholic and public boards to work together on plans for re-aligning the two*school*systems. The boards are expected to negotiate transfer of staff and possibly*school*buildings.

"I don't think we should kid ourselves into thinking that the public *school*supporters are all cheery about this," Mr. Ferrier said.

He said creation of a public Catholic high*school*system will require "hard negotiations" and the*school*trustees must work to create a climate of good will.

"We must try to keep the anger from coming out."

Trustees are becoming a lightning rod for public opposition to public financing of Catholic*schools,*Mr. Ferrier said.

The unanimous all-party support in the*Legislature*has denied opponents an outlet at Queen's Park, so they are venting their frustration at the trustees, he said.

The electorate would probably turn down public financing of Catholic *schools,*as it did in 1971, if it became an election issue, he added.

Mr. Ferrier, 51, served as a provincial MP from 1967 to 1977. He ran unsuccessfully for federal office in 1980 and now works in Timmins as the

minister of Mountjoy United Church.

Interviewed in his cluttered office above the church's chapel, he recalled the 1971 provincial election campaign when the Liberals and NDP lost votes by advocating public financing for Catholic*schools.*

The thrust of the Tory campaign was that Ontario could not afford two systems. Mr. Davis also maintained that one universal system, open to all, created a climate of good will and understanding, Mr. Ferrier said.

"If the voters were asked to express their opinions now, I am convinced that there would be the same reaction. There would not be such a strong endorsement," he said.

"A lot of people voted for the Conservatives on that basis in 1971 and that contributed to giving him (Mr. Davis) that big majority. I don't think there has been a shift in the population of the province since then."

Mr. Ferrier, who represented the predominantly Catholic town of Timmins in the*Legislature,*said he supports the Catholic community's historic claim to public funds for their*schools.*

The United Church maintains that religion should be taught in the home and in the Church. "We do not want to impose our interpretation of life on our country. We see our children mixing with other children of different faith and background," he said.

But the Catholic community was guaranteed public funds at Confederation and the commitment should be honored, he said.

ADDED SEARCH TERMS: Ontario government grants education*school*separate
*schools*Roman Catholic Church

.....
843170218 MON NOV.12,1984 PAGE: M4
BYLINE: ROBERT MATAS
CLASS:*News*
DATELINE: WORDS: 1066
.....

** Catholics weigh **
** price of victory **
** on*school*funds **
By ROBERT MATAS

They fought for generations without a thought for the morning after a victory.

Ontario's Roman Catholics have pleaded with a succession of provincial governments, petitioned the*courts*and prayed for almost 100 years for public financing of a Catholic high*school*system.

Yet Premier William Davis caught the Catholic community unprepared with his surprise announcement in June that the Ontario Government would begin financing Catholic high*schools*in September, 1985.

Catholic leaders who had been on the front lines for years welcomed the historic change in Government policy with unrestrained excitement. But as Catholic parents, teachers, administrators and*school*trustees begin to calculate the price of victory, many are wondering what they have won.

Public financing of Catholic high*schools*will mean much more than a shift in the student population and a marginal increase in Government

appointed commission instructed to implement the new policies decided to hold hearings, probably in November.

The open hearings will provide an opportunity for citizens and members of the education community to express any views and concerns they might have about the plan, commission officials said.

William T. Newnham, the 61-year-old commission chairman, said in an interview before the commission's five-hour meeting, that the commission expects to rely on the policy's most vocal critics to discover how to implement the controversial new education policies.

The commission's role is mainly to encourage the boards of education and directors from the Catholic and non-denominational schools to work together, Mr. Newnham said.

"I don't like the thought of an autocratic commission, divorced from reality. We have to have local agreements to work out the problems," he said.

The commission began its discussions working only with a general statement Mr. Davis made three months ago and no further guidelines.

Mr. Newnham said he has not seen any Government reports on the impact of the controversial change in Government policy, the cost of the historic move or guidelines for implementation.

"We'll take the (Premier's) statement in the Legislature and apply it. If we do it well, I hope the concerns expressed about it will go away," said Mr. Newnham, who also begins this month as executive director of the University of Toronto's School of Continuing Studies.

The Ontario Government appointed the eight-member Commission for Planning and Implementing Change in the Governance and Administration of Secondary Education in Ontario seven weeks after Mr. Davis announced that the province would provide full financing for Catholic high schools, effective September, 1985.

The commission includes four members representing teachers, school trustees and directors of education in the non-denominational school system and three members with a background in administration and politics in the separate school system.

Mr. Newnham was a North York high school principal in the non-denominational system before working for 17 1/2 years as president of Seneca College in Willowdale.

The first meeting was planned as a get-acquainted session. After lunch, they began identifying the practical problems involved in Government financing of Catholic high schools and setting a schedule for their work.

The Government now provides full financing for the elementary school grades and more than 80 per cent of the cost for grades 9 and 10.

But no Government financing is provided for grades 11, 12 and 13 in the religious schools.

Several public boards of education, teacher groups and directors of education have already voiced their concerns about the new education policy.

The Ontario Secondary School Teachers Federation, with a special \$1-million fund, wants assurances that Catholic school boards will not discriminate against hiring non-Catholic teachers.

The school trustees' associations fear the Government will cut funds for the public school system to provide more money for the Catholic schools. They want a guarantee of adequate Government financing for both school systems.

The directors of education want guaranteed universal access to any school that is publicly supported. Catholic schools should be required to

provide the full range of programs and, like non-denominational schools, should not be allowed to turn away students they do not want, the directors have said.

Some Catholic schools officials have also expressed fears about losing control over the catholicity of their system by accepting full Government financing.

Mr. Newnham said the commission wants to encourage local boards, with their expertise, to discuss areas of concern among themselves. Agreements reached between local boards will then be recommended to the Government for implementation, he said.

The commission will also work on recommendations dealing with changes to the legislative framework for education and changes to school boundaries.

But the commission will likely not touch proposals to change the tax bases for the school system or to amalgamate the Catholic and non-denominational boards in the same geographic areas.

Although the commission will have to sort out problems related to universal accessibility, it is too early to give any indication of the commission's involvement in the issue, Mr. Newnham said.

The commission is expected to submit a report to the Government by 1987, two years after implementation is to begin.

Mr. Newnham said he expects the commission will submit recommendations on aspects of implementation individually, whenever a proposal is formulated. He predicted that the commission will continue beyond 1987, guiding the policy for at least four years.

ADDED SEARCH TERMS: Ontario government grants education finance Roman Catholic Church separate schools

.....

842560307 WED SEP.12,1984 PAGE: M1

BYLINE: ROBERT MATAS

CLASS: *News*

DATELINE:

MEMO: Afternoon Edition

WORDS: 370

.....

** Commission meeting **
** about aid problems **
** for RC high schools **

By ROBERT MATAS

Working only with a general statement Premier William Davis made three months ago, a provincial commission holds its first meeting behind closed doors this afternoon to discuss the practical problems involved in government financing of Catholic high schools.

William T. Newnham, the 61-year old commission chairman, said in an interview before the meeting he has not seen any government reports on the impact of the controversial change in government policy, the cost of the historic move or guidelines for implementation.

"We'll take the statement in the Legislature and apply it. If we do it well, I hope the concerns expressed about it will go away," said Mr. Newnham, who also begins this month as executive director of the

University of Toronto's*School*of Continuing Studies.

The Ontario Government appointed the eight-member Commission for Planning and Implementing Change in the Governance and Administration of Secondary Education in Ontario seven weeks after Mr. Davis announced that the provincial Government would provide full financing for Catholic high schools,*effective September, 1985.

The commission includes four members representing teachers,*school* trustees and directors of education in the non-denominational*school* system and three members with a background in administration and politics in the separate*school*system.

Mr. Newnham was a North York high*school*principal in the non-denominational*system before working for 17 1/2 years as president of Seneca College in Willowdale.

Although the commission is confronted with some immediate problems, such as a freeze on construction of new*schools,*the commissioners are not expected to reach any major decisions today.

The first meeting has been planned as a get-acquainted session. The commissioners will socialize during a light lunch served at the commission's office in a government building. After lunch, they are to discuss the issues they must later resolve and set up a schedule for their work.

The Government now provides full financing for the elementary*school* grades and more than 80 per cent of the cost for grades 9 and 10. But no government financing is provided for grades 11, 12 and 13 in the religious *schools.*Several public boards of education, teacher groups and directors of education have raised numerous concerns about the new education policy.

ADDED SEARCH TERMS: Ontario government grants education finance Roman Catholic Church separate *schools*

841790250 WED JUN.27,1984 PAGE: P1
BYLINE: ROBERT STEPHENS and ROBERT MATAS
CLASS:*News*
DATELINE: WORDS: 828

** French instruction vowed **

** for pupils 'who want it' **

By ROBERT STEPHENS and ROBERT MATAS

Every Franco-Ontarian child will have the right to receive instruction in French under changes to the Education Act to be introduced today, Ontario Intergovernmental Affairs Minister Thomas Wells says.

The proposed*legislation*follows a ruling by the Ontario*Court*of Appeal*that parts of the province's Education Act are unconstitutional.

A special five-member panel of judges ruled that the Education Act conflicts with the Charter of Rights and Freedoms by requiring 25 children for a French-language elementary*school*and 20 children for a secondary *school.*The Education Act also conflicts with the charter by giving local boards of education discretionary power to provide minority-language education.

The charter guarantees access to education in the minority language

where numbers are sufficient. Any arbitrary limitation applied across the province without any qualification or exemption may be difficult to justify. The numbers may vary with geographic regions and type of instruction to be provided, the judges said.

Mr. Wells told reporters yesterday that French-language instruction in the schools would be made available to any French-speaking student "who wants it." He estimated that the change will affect about 1,000 students in the province, but it will not be passed in time for September's classes.

Education Minister Bette Stephenson will introduce an amendment today to remove the current provision that guarantees French-language education only where numbers warrant. But the provision will not be debated in the House until the fall session, Mr. Wells said.

The Government had introduced similar changes last December, when francophone groups first appealed to the courts to rule on francophone rights for French-language education. But the Government then pulled back and did not give final approval to the legislation.

The amendment to be introduced today will avoid the constitutional problems related to the provision of minority-language education. However, the court also said linguistic minorities should be guaranteed representation on local boards, and the Government is still wrestling with this issue.

"The lack of effective control of French-language education and facilities has led to the rapid assimilation of francophones in Ontario," the court said in arguing for greater participation by francophones in the management of the educational system.

Mr. Wells said the Conservative Government is opposed to the establishment of separate French-language school boards because "that would be contrary to the trend towards consolidation."

Various options were being considered to give representation to French-language groups, and different arrangements may be necessary for different areas of the province, he said.

Mr. Wells also indicated that the Government would likely not appeal the court's decision.

Spokesmen for the francophone education community welcomed the judgment while spokesmen from the separate school system expressed disappointment.

Guy Matte, president of the Franco-Ontarian teachers association, said the decision could lead to the establishment of several new French-language high schools, especially in southern Ontario where francophones have pressed unsuccessfully for French-language high schools. Only six boards of education in southern Ontario provide French-language education.

He also said the affirmation of francophone rights to French-language education shows the value of the charter.

The court now says French-language education is a right and the Government cannot seesaw, giving and then taking away, Mr. Matte said. "This is our right, no matter what the Government does."

Mr. Matte also welcomed the judges ruling that local boards of education should not have the discretion to decide on minority-language education rights.

Leo LeTourneau, a spokesman for francophone groups outside Quebec, said the court has handed down a "very important judgment that other governments across the country will have to consider seriously."

The judgment may cause other provinces to reconsider how many francophones are needed to require French-language classes or schools, he said.

But Father Raymond Durocher, spokesman for the Ontario Separate*Schools* Trustees Association, said the judgment did not acknowledge the dual aspect of the Catholic*schools.*"We're not completely happy with it," he said.

The*court*ruled that the Ontario Government could require the separate *school*system to recognize minority language.

Nevertheless, the separate*schools*had worked out an arrangement before the*court*judgment with the francophone community to provide French-language education and a degree of francophone control over the program, he said.

Paul Cavalluzzo, lawyer for the Ontario English Catholic Teachers Association, said he had argued that the Catholic*schools*had the right to manage and control their*schools*and any interference through representation by francophones would interfere with those*denominational* rights.

The association will consider launching an*appeal*to the Supreme*Court* of Canada, he added.

Meanwhile, New Democratic Party MPP Michael Cassidy called on the Government to make Ontario officially bilingual in view of the*court*uling.

Liberal Leader David Peterson said the Government should set up a select committee of the House to consider the issues and develop a consensus on the amendments to the Education Act so the changes won't be rammed through without consultation.

ADDED SEARCH TERMS: Ontario Education Act French language education policy Canada Bill of Rights

.....
841790316 WED JUN.27,1984 PAGE: M3
BYLINE: DUNCAN McMONAGLE
CLASS:*News*
DATELINE: WORDS: 589
.....

**** Judgment answers questions on education ****

By DUNCAN McMONAGLE

The Ontario*Court*of*Appeal's*ruling yesterday that the Charter of Rights and Freedoms demands a renovation of the province's education system is based on a study of two centuries of bitter political and cultural disputes.

That study, and the assertion that the two-year-old charter's emphasis on guaranteed rights has "changed the focus of*constitutional*law and the role of the*courts,*"push Ontario's top*court*away from the dry principles of judicial interpretation and right into the political arena.

The five judges encourage federal and provincial politicians not to leave educational disputes to*courts.*

The 126-page judgment answers four questions that the Ontario Government referred to the*court*last August:

Does the requirement in the Education Act that 25 French-speaking elementary students or 20 secondary students are needed before French-language classes are provided violate the minority-language section of the

charter?

Yes, for four reasons.

First, it provides French classes to a much narrower class of people than the charter, which guarantees it for the children of anyone who took primary classes in French, whose first language is French or has another child studying in French in Canada.

Secondly, *school*boards have too much discretion to provide French-language instruction.

Thirdly, the arbitrary limits of 20 and 25 students contravenes the charter because instruction must be provided "wherever in the province the number of children of citizens who have such a right is sufficient."

Fourthly, *school*boards cover too small an area. The charter's minority-language provision "transcends the geographical boundaries of *school*boards."

Is the Education Act inconsistent with the charter because it does not allow francophones the right to manage French-language resources?

Yes. "Fundamental fairness impels the conclusion that those parents whose children use minority-language educational facilities should participate in managing and controlling them."

Do the charter's minority-language guarantees apply equally to public and separate *schools*?

Yes. "Section 23 of the charter draws no distinction between *denominational* and non-denominational systems of education."

Does the Ontario Government have the authority to provide for election of minority-language trustees with some exclusive responsibilities to Roman Catholic separate *school*boards?

Yes. "The proposals are within the *Legislature's* undoubted regulatory power to establish an effective method of achieving proper minority-language instruction in this province."

The judgment includes a summary of developments in minority-language instruction in Ontario since 1763.

A royal proclamation in that year was an effort to assimilate French, it says. The Quebec Act of 1774, though, has been called "virtually the Magna Carta of French Canadians" and set the principle that French Canadians could be British subjects without being English.

Until the days of Egerton Ryerson, who was Superintendent of *Schools* from 1844 to 1876, Upper Canada generally "did not concern itself with the education provided in the *schools*." "There was no standard course of study or policy about language of instruction. Grants were made to public *schools* and teachers were paid by public funds."

Mr. Ryerson arranged passage of a regulation allowing for "the exclusive use of French (or German) in any of the *schools* of Upper Canada."

Between 1880 and 1920, "French-language instruction suffered severe setbacks."

In 1913, Regulation 17 decreed English to be the only language of instruction after Grade 2. It was law until 1944.

The Royal Commission on Bilingualism and Biculturalism in the late 1960s focused political debate on minority-language education.

The culmination of that debate was Section 23 of the charter, the judgment says.

ADDED SEARCH TERMS: Canada Bill of Rights Ontario education policy Education Act French language

841790336 WED JUN.27,1984 PAGE: M5
BYLINE: ROBERT MATAS, ROBERT STEPHENS and JOHN CRUICKSHANK
CLASS:*News*
DATELINE:
MEMO: Afternoon Edition
WORDS: 685

**** Francophones to get control ****

**** Education act changes set after ruling ****

By ROBERT MATAS, ROBERT STEPHENS and JOHN CRUICKSHANK

Ontario's*school*boards will be able to comply with proposed language-of-education guarantees within two or three months of the proclamation of new legislation,*Education Minister Bette Stephenson, said today.

Dr. Stephenson told reporters that if the*Legislature*passes laws this fall giving every Franco-Ontarian child the right to receive instruction in French, the*schools*will implement the*legislation*in mid-school year.

The Ontario Government was to introduce changes to the Education Act today eliminating regulations that say French-language instruction would be made available only where numbers warranted. Dr. Stephenson said she thought those changes would affect only about 1,000 children and cost the province about \$1-million.

Dr. Stephenson also promised to introduce*legislation*this fall to ensure that Franco-Ontarians are given a measure of control over their childrens'*schools.*Dr. Stephenson said that will mean that Franco-Ontarians will be guaranteed*school*board representation by 1985.

The*legislation*follows a ruling yesterday by the Ontario*Court*of*Appeal*that parts of the province's Education Act are unconstitutional.

A special five-member panel of judges ruled that the Education Act conflicts with the Charter of Rights and Freedoms by requiring 25 children for a French-language elementary*school*and 20 children for a secondary*school.*The Education Act also conflicts with the charter by giving local boards of education discretionary power to provide minority-language education.

The charter guarantees access to education in the minority language where numbers are sufficient. Any arbitrary limitation applied across the province without any qualification or exemption may be difficult to justify. The numbers may vary with geographic regions and type of instruction to be provided, the judges said.

Ontario Intergovernmental Affairs Minister Thomas Wells told reporters yesterday that French-language instruction in the*schools*would be made available to any French-speaking student "who wants it." The Government had introduced similar changes last December, when francophone groups first appealed to the*courts*to rule on francophone rights for French-language education. But the Government then pulled back and did not give final approval to the*legislation.*

The amendment to be introduced today will avoid the*constitutional*problems related to the provision of minority-language education. However, the*court*also and the Government is still wrestling with this issue.

"The lack of effective control of French-language education and facilities has led to the rapid assimilation of francophones in Ontario," the*court*said in arguing for greater participation by francophones in the management of the educational system.

Mr. Wells said the Conservative Government is opposed to the establishment of separate French-language*school*boards because "that

would be contrary to the trend towards consolidation."

Various options were being considered to give representation to French-language groups, and different arrangements may be necessary for different areas of the province, he said.

Mr. Wells also indicated that the Government would likely not*appeal* the*court's*decision.

Spokesmen for the francophone education community welcomed the judgment while spokesmen from the separate*school*system expressed disappointment.

Guy Matte, president of the Franco-Ontarian teachers association, said the decision could lead to the establishment of several new French-language high*schools,*especially in southern Ontario.

Only six boards of education in southern Ontario provide French-language education.

He also said the affirmation of francophone rights to French-language education shows the value of the charter.

The*court*now says French-language education is a right and the Government cannot seesaw, giving and then taking away, Mr. Matte said.

"This is our right, no matter what the Government does."

But Reverend Raymond Durocher, spokesman for the Ontario Separate *Schools*Trustees Association, said the judgment did not acknowledge the dual aspect of the Catholic*schools.*"We're not completely happy with it," he said.

The*court*ruled that the Ontario Government could require the separate *school*system to recognize minority languages.

Paul Cavalluzzo, lawyer for the Ontario English Catholic Teachers Association, said he had argued that the Catholic*schools*had the right to manage and control their*schools*and any interference through representation by francophones would interfere with those*denominational* rights.

ADDED SEARCH TERMS: *school*boards Ontario education policy French language

::

841670128 FRI JUN.15,1984 PAGE: M2

BYLINE: ROBERT MATAS

CLASS:*News*

DATELINE:

WORDS: 338

::

** Dismissed **

** teacher **

** stands by **

** old system **

By ROBERT MATAS

Catholic teacher Susan Ferderber was teaching her Grade 7 students about Christian compassion when the Carleton Separate*School*Board decided to fire her for marrying out of the faith.

Mrs. Ferderber, who had been hired three years earlier with a letter of recommendation from her parish priest, felt she was unfairly treated. She realizes she will never be hired again by a Catholic board.

But she still believes that the Ontario Government should not dictate to the Roman Catholic*schools*which teachers they can hire. If the

Catholic*schools*cannot have Catholic teachers, there is no need to have separate*school*boards, Mrs. Ferderber said yesterday in an interview.

Premier William Davis announced earlier this week that Catholic*school*boards will receive Government financing for all high*school*grades. Government grants are currently available only up to Grade 10 in the separate*school*system.

However, the separate*schools*must, under the new system, open their doors to non-Catholic teachers for 10 years.

Mrs. Ferderber is one of several teachers who have lost their jobs in Catholic*schools*on*denominational*grounds.

The Supreme*Court*of Canada is expected to rule this year in the case of a Vancouver Catholic teacher whose contract was not renewed because she married a divorced Methodist. The case is expected to affect the hiring and firing practices of Catholic boards throughout Canada.

Mrs. Ferderber said she thought of herself as a practicing Catholic. Her firing two years ago was, she said, "a matter of politics." She taught six different subjects to her Grade 7 class at Frank Ryan senior elementary*school,*including religion.

"Ironically, I was one of the teachers who said the curriculum did not have enough doctrine."

Mrs. Ferderber was married to a non-Catholic by a Presbyterian minister at her home. When she told the*school*principal, he said she should either re-marry in a church in a ceremony conducted by a Catholic priest or resign.

Mrs. Ferderber refused, feeling she was "married in the eyes of God."

ADDED SEARCH TERMS: Ontario government grants education teachers separate*schools*Roman Catholic Church

841670130 FRI JUN.15,1984 PAGE: M2
BYLINE: JOHN CRUICKSHANK and JOAN BRECKENRIDGE
CLASS:*News*
DATELINE:

WORDS: 571

** Teachers consider **
** charter challenge **
** on RC financing **

By JOHN CRUICKSHANK and JOAN BRECKENRIDGE

Ontario's high*school*teachers begin meetings tonight to consider a *constitutional*challenge to Premier William Davis's decision to grant Roman Catholic*schools*public status and full financing.

"The Premier is not allowing any public input on this matter - he has entirely bypassed the democratic process," Malcolm Buchanan, president of the Ontario Secondary*School*Teachers Federation, said yesterday.

"He's already decided what's going to happen. It's despicable."

Mr. Buchanan said that about 100 members of the federation's provincial council will decide over the weekend whether to initiate*court*action to block the province's plan.

He said that the Roman Catholic*school*system's practice of giving Catholic teachers preferential treatment would probably run afoul of the

Charter of Rights and Freedoms once the*denominational*schools*receive full public status and financial support.

"Some members of the Catholic community have already begun to express the view that they don't want a lot of non-Catholic teachers in their *schools*because that would change the nature of those institutions," he said.

"My view is that if they have public support then there should be no restrictions."

But Mr. Buchanan's says his foremost concern is that the new direction was taken without consultation with the teachers or the public.

Education Minister Bette Stephenson said she has known for some time that the new policy was about to be announced.

"There has been continuous study of the issue since I became minister in 1978, and discussion, sometimes desultory and sometimes intensive, during that period," Dr. Stephenson said. "It's never been shelved."

Dr. Stephenson said concern on the part of*school*trustees about the financial impact on the public*school*system is unfounded. The necessary \$40-million a year will be paid partly by redistributing current education funds and partly by increasing the share of Government funds for education, she said.

But support for the public*school*system will not decline, she emphasized.

Dr. Stephenson also said she expected public hearings will be held on the feasibility of Government aid to private*schools*and possibly also on the financing of elementary and secondary education.

In his announcement, Mr. Davis said three commissions would be set up; one to implement the proposed reforms, one to look at the financing of elementary and secondary education and one to inquire into the role and status of independent*schools*in the province.

While Dr. Stephenson knew about Mr. Davis's plans, her office had no information about when the various commissions will start or who will be appointed to them.

Richard Donaldson, Dr. Stephenson's special assistant, was not able to speculate on the balance that will be struck between the various interests on the commissions and he did not know whether the public would be asked to submit briefs.

"All matters regarding the commissions will be resolved in the near future," he said.

Neither the*legislation*nor the business and finance branch of the ministry know what role, if any, they will play on the commissions and they had no advance warning of the changes.

William Mitchell, director of the*legislation*branch, said he didn't know about the new policy but he doesn't think that's unusual.

"Premier's announcements aren't usually well known in advance, they're usually kept hush-hush," he said.

Ross Cowan, an education finance officer in the business and finance branch, said that to his knowledge, no one in the department was told about the reforms before the announcement.

ADDED SEARCH TERMS: statements Ontario government grants education policy teachers separate*schools*Roman Catholic Church

841660066 THU JUN.14,1984 PAGE: P1
BYLINE: JOAN BRECKENRIDGE
CLASS:*News*
DATELINE: WORDS: 422

** Added separate*school*aid **
** upsets non-Catholic teachers **
By JOAN BRECKENRIDGE

Non-Roman Catholic*school*teachers could end up being treated as second-class citizens if the separate*school*boards' discriminatory hiring practices are not ended, says the president of the Ontario Secondary *School*Teachers Federation.

"There's a distinct possibility this could happen unless the separate *school*board employs teachers regardless of their religion," Malcolm Buchanan said yesterday.

Premier William Davis announced on Tuesday that the provincial Government would grant Catholic*schools*equity in status and financing within the public education system.

As part of his statement, Mr. Davis said that for the next 10 years the Catholic*school*boards must employ non-Catholic teachers in their secondary*schools.*The separate*school*boards usually give preference to Catholic teachers when they are hiring.

Mr. Buchanan said he is afraid the separate*school*system will continue to give preference to Catholic teachers. As public*school*enrolment continues to decrease, many non-Catholics will be applying for jobs in the separate*school*system.

The federation is also concerned about what will happen to non-Catholic teachers beyond the 10-year provision.

"The Catholic*schools*will still be funded by taxpayers' dollars, but it seems that the Government is saying non-Catholic teachers won't be hired after the 10 years are over. That's discrimination," he said.

Mr. Buchanan said the federation wants clear guarantees from Ontario that non-Catholic teachers will be considered for employment on an equal basis in the Catholic system and the federation may launch a *constitutional*challenge through its national council.

John Tolton, chairman of the Metro Toronto*School*Board, said he is also concerned about how non-Catholic teachers will be hired because they "are not equal in the eyes of the separate board."

The separate*school*system's current hiring practices won't change, according to the president of the Ontario English Catholic Teachers Association.

"They're*denominational*schools*and the all-day religious milieu requires Catholic teachers," Kevin Kennedy said, adding that while there is no general policy for the hiring of Catholics first, it is assumed that this is how it works.

Caroline DiGiovanni, vice-chairman of the Metro Separate*School*Board, said she has also never seen a written policy regarding hiring, but "we favor Catholics."

She said she hopes the board will be able to hire non-Catholics "equitably and fairly" while retaining the religious basis of the system.

Education Minister Bette Stephenson could not be reached to comment on whether the provincial Government will pass*legislation*requiring the separate boards to hire teachers without regard to religion.

ADDED SEARCH TERMS: Ontario education teachers job discrimination Roman Catholic Church separate*schools*

.....
841540031 SAT JUN.02,1984 PAGE: P8 (ILLUS)
BYLINE: PAT ROCHE
CLASS:*News*
DATELINE: ST. JOHN'S, NF WORDS: 728
.....

**** Catholic Church marks 200th anniversary ****
**** A mass celebration ****
BY PAT ROCHE

ST. JOHN'S, Nfld.

FOR MORE than a century, one of this city's prominent landmarks has been the Basilica of St. John the Baptist. This week, the imposing stone building was the site of celebrations commemorating the 200th anniversary of the founding of Roman Catholic Church in Newfoundland.

Roman Catholicism has been practiced in Newfoundland since the first Europeans arrived more than 400 years ago. The church was formally established when Pope Pius VI appointed an Irish Franciscan priest, James Louis O'Donel, as the first bishop of Newfoundland on May 30, 1784.

The Newfoundland church was now directly responsible to the Vatican, rather than to the bishop in London. Hence Newfoundland became the seat of the second formally established Catholic church in North America (after Quebec).

Roman Catholicism was brought to Newfoundland by Irish immigrants and today about one-third of the population of 600,000 are Roman Catholic.

Although the faith retains a firmer hold in Newfoundland than in most of North America, it has declined in the past couple of generations. Church attendance has fallen - only slightly in rural areas, but by as much as 50 per cent in some urban parishes, say church estimates.

While some Catholics were alienated because they felt the church was changing too quickly, others may have fallen away because they felt it wasn't changing quickly enough, says Archbishop Alphonsus Penney of Newfoundland. Other changes may have affected church attendance: "For example, 50 years ago, where else could people go on Sunday, except to church? Now you have all kinds of options."

There has also been a decrease in the number of young men entering the priesthood, although no serious shortage exists. There has, however, been a drastic decrease of young people entering the three religious orders in the province: the Sisters of Mercy, the Presentation Sisters and the Christian Brothers.

And costs have risen. Although contributions have increased, they have not kept pace with fuel and labor costs and other expenses of maintaining churches and parish buildings.

In Newfoundland, as elsewhere, the church has in recent years become involved with social issues. Through editorials in its monthly newspaper, The Monitor, and in press releases from its Social Action Committee in St. John's, the church has commented on issues such as offshore oil development and the restructuring of the province's fisheries, urging that

the needs of the workers must not be forgotten.

It has supported Indian and Inuit claims to special status as aboriginal people. In 1982, the Social Action Committee participated in an inter-church commission that produced a report on housing conditions in St. John's. The report, which said that the housing available to many of those on welfare in the city was sub-standard, created a controversy that lasted for months.

One area where the church's involvement is unlikely to change in the near future is education. The Catholic church began operating its own *schools* in Newfoundland in 1833 when the Christian Brothers and nuns began educating the children of the poor. The Terms of Union under which Newfoundland joined Canada in 1949 ensured that the major Christian *denominations* would retain certain important powers over education. Those powers have been protected by the Canadian *Constitution* since 1982, and include the rights to appoint a percentage of *school* board members, control over entry into the teaching profession and authority to allocate public funds for *school* construction.

Five major Protestant *denominations* combined their separate *school* boards into a series of regional integrated boards in the 1960s. However, Archbishop Penney says that "in no way" does he expect the Catholic boards to merge with the others. Catholic children attend Protestant *schools* only in areas where there aren't enough Catholic children to justify building a Catholic *school*, and vice-versa.

"But where we have a viable *school* population, we feel that our children and their parents have a right to (their own *school* board)," Archbishop Penney says. A survey by Memorial University last year indicated that the majority of Newfoundlanders are satisfied with the present educational system.

Also, an agreement reached this year with the Newfoundland Teachers Association ensures that a certain percentage of teachers employed by each Catholic *school* board will be nuns and Christian Brothers. The figure is based on numbers employed in 1982, when 216 of the province's 8,000 teaching positions were filled by members of the religious orders.

ADDED SEARCH TERMS: Newfoundland religion Roman Catholic Church

::

840980140 SAT APR.07,1984 PAGE: P19

BYLINE: ROBERT MATAS

CLASS:*News*

DATELINE:

WORDS: 855

::

** RC rights lost in bargaining **

** with teachers, trustees told **

By ROBERT MATAS

Several separate *school* boards in Ontario are bargaining away their right to a Roman Catholic *school* system by agreeing to show just cause before firing a teacher who marries outside the church, Rev. Raymond Durocher says.

Ontario *school* boards have always maintained that a teacher who was fired for marrying in a non-Catholic ceremony could not *appeal* the

decision.

The British North America Act of 1867 guaranteed the *school* system's right to hire only teachers who lead Catholic lives and provincial laws could not violate those rights, Father Durocher, research director of the Ontario Separate *School* Trustees Association, said yesterday at the association's annual meeting.

However, 17 Catholic boards in Ontario have signed collective agreements with their teachers that include a clause stating no teacher will be dismissed without just cause.

Earle McCabe, an liaison official for the board, told trustees that a *court* ruling earlier this year found that the clause allows a teacher to contest a firing for *denominational* reasons.

The BNA Act does not oblige a board or the teachers to negotiate or reach an agreement on *denominational* matters. But the *constitution* also does not prohibit any voluntary agreements, Mr. McCabe said.

A *school* board that has entered into the agreement has forfeited some of its rights, probably inadvertently, he said.

"We are concerned that the boards never intended this. What is now required is that the boards negotiate amendments to the agreements and reinforce their *constitutional* rights," he added.

Catholic *schools* across Canada have been facing increasing pressure in recent years to justify the firing of teachers who made non-Catholic marriages.

The Supreme *Court* of Canada is expected to rule later this year on a case of a Vancouver teacher whose contract was not renewed because she married a divorced Methodist. Catholic trustees have said the case could affect the hiring and firing practices of Catholic *schools* throughout Canada.

John Fauteux, a vice-president of the Ontario English Catholic Teachers Association, said the Ontario teachers' group has always assumed that a *school* board had the right to dismiss a teacher for marrying outside the church, regardless of the wording of collective agreements.

The federation protects its members who are fired to ensure that due process has been followed, he said. But he refused to comment on whether the federation would fight for a teacher dismissed for marrying outside the Catholic faith.

Each case would have to be considered individually on its merits, Mr. Fauteux said.

Catholic trustees at the annual meeting said they wanted the *school* boards to have the right to hire only Catholic teachers and to fire any teacher who does not continue to practice the Catholic faith.

John Devlin, a trustee from the Huron Perth Roman Catholic Separate *School* Board, said a teacher teaches more by who he is and what he does with his life than by what he teaches in the classroom.

Sylvia Vanhaverbeke, a trustee from the Peterborough-Victoria-Northumberland-Newcastle Roman Catholic Separate *School* Board, said trustees are often hesitant to raise *denominational* issues in fear of being labelled a bigot.

"But if I send my child to a French immersion *school*, I expect all the teachers to speak French, and if I send them to a Catholic *school*, I expect all the teachers to be Catholic," she said.

Mrs. Vanhaverbeke said she had objected to her board's employing a teacher of the Baha'i faith. He was an excellent teacher and was not allowed to teach religion. Nevertheless, three Grade 8 students at the *school* turned to the Baha'i faith, she said.

Father Durocher said*school*trustees must reflect community standards when deciding if a teacher should be fired on*denominational*grounds.

"It's said an Irish priest can drink as much as he wants but cannot run around with women; and in Quebec, a priest can run around but cannot drink. At McGill University, you don't have to believe in God but have to be faithful to your wife. But at the University of Montreal, you have to believe in God but it does not matter if you are faithful to your wife," Father Durocher said.

As a guide of community standards, Father Durocher suggested trustees fire a teacher only for something that would prevent the trustee's election. "I had a drunken trustee come to me and ask how to get rid of a drunken teacher. I told him we better talk about it at another time," he said.

The standard for evaluating Catholicity is that the teacher give some evidence of acceptance and commitment to Christianity and a desire to live according to Christian beliefs, Father Durocher added.

Mr. McCabe warned that*school*teachers convince trustees to include the just cause clause by appealing to their sense of fair play. Teachers persuade trustees to say they would not fire someone without just cause and then ask for a written statement in the agreement.

Trustees should consider including a clear statement of management rights in the contracts to clarify their authority, he said. The trustees should also ensure that an exception for*denominational*reasons is part of any just cause clauses.

ADDED SEARCH TERMS: Ontario separate*schools*teachers Roman Catholic Church wrongful dismissal

840960071 THU APR.05,1984 PAGE: M2

BYLINE: KIRK MAKIN

CLASS:*News*

DATELINE:

WORDS: 425

** Religious freedoms can bow to law, **

** Crown tells Sunday-closing*appeal**

By KIRK MAKIN

The*constitutionally-guaranteed*right to freedom of religion must sometimes bow to duly-legislated laws, a Crown lawyer said yesterday in defending Ontario's controversial Sunday-closing law.

"I'm going to submit that there is provision (in the*constitution)*for the unequal treatment of religions," lawyer Bonnie Wein said. Provisions for*denominational*schools*are one example, she said when pressed by the Ontario*Court*of*Appeal*panel hearing the case.

Eight Toronto stores are challenging the validity of the Retail Business Holidays Act on several*constitutional*grounds. The case, being heard by five judges, is expected to break new ground.

Miss Wein denied the*legislation*was inspired by a desire to protect the Christian day of rest.

To the obvious chagrin of Ontario Chief Justice William Howland, Miss Wein was engaged in a lengthy and spirited*constitutional*debate by Mr.

Justice Walter Tarnopolsky, a recognized*constitutional*expert.

Judge Tarnopolsky acknowledged the right to religious freedom may have taken a back seat in days before the Charter of Rights and Freedoms. But had the charter not changed many of the ground rules?

"Are those pre-charter cases not irrelevant now?" he interrupted at one point as Miss Wein recited case law to back up her points.

"I would suggest they are more than simply historical analyses," she replied. "The prior authorities still have great weight."

At any rate, Miss Wein said, religion is not behind the act. Various defence lawyers predicted this line of defence during the submissions, with one lawyer terming it "nonsense."

Miss Wein also argued that the businesses, some of which allege religious discrimination, have no right to seek refuge under the charter because the right to religious freedom applies only to individuals, not companies.

Judge Tarnopolsky said he found this submission curious, since this would mean companies could not allege a breach of the right to religion if *legislators,*for example, stopped them from selling the Old Testament.

Miss Wein also argued that any economic penalties incurred by stores result because they chose to stay closed on other days for religious reasons. The unfortunate consequences should not be blamed on the *legislation*itself, which simply ensures one day of rest per week, she said.

According to the freedom of religion and conscience argument used earlier this week by some of the appellants, the act discriminates against non-Christians who must stay closed on Sundays or open with severe restrictions.

Lawyer Gerald Levitan raised the question of freedom of expression yesterday, saying that the video-rental store he represents is being discriminated against.

ADDED SEARCH TERMS: Ontario Retail Business Holidays Act store closings Sunday laws anti-Semitism

840800216 TUE MAR.20,1984 PAGE: M5
BYLINE: ROBERT MATAS
CLASS:*News*
DATELINE: WORDS: 711

** Provincial rules vary **
***School*prayer fades away in Canada **

By ROBERT MATAS

The tradition of starting each*school*day in Canada with the Lord's Prayer and a Bible reading is gradually disappearing in many provinces.

"No one told anyone what to do. It just faded away," Robert Trempe, secretary-general of the Quebec Ministry of Education, said yesterday in an interview from Quebec City.

Ten or 15 years ago, Quebec teachers would have a prayer or a moment of silence at the beginning of class. But religion has lost its clout and many teachers now begin their day without any religious exercises, he

said.

Opening exercises are required in classrooms in Ontario, Newfoundland and Manitoba, although exemptions are possible. But in other provinces, *school*boards or *schools* can decide how to reflect the community's preference.

Prayer in public *schools* has become a major issue in U.S. politics during this election year. President Ronald Reagan, who has favored prayer in the *schools* for most of his political career, is pushing for a *constitutional* amendment that would allow teachers and students to pray in the classroom.

Two U.S. Supreme *Court* decisions in 1962 and 1963 effectively prohibited prayer and Bible readings. "It was a shock to a lot of people," Gary Bauer, spokesman for the U.S. education department, said yesterday in an interview.

The movement to bring prayer back into the classroom has also been spurred by a rebirth among youth of a commitment to religious values, said Mr. Bauer. He said he was reflecting the views of the White House.

Many older students in the public *school* system have formed clubs with a religious orientation and want the right to meet for prayer or to discuss the Bible before class, he said.

Mr. Reagan believes religious freedom should apply everywhere, including in the *schools*, Mr. Bauer said. Children should not be forced to participate in a religious exercise, but those who want to pray in a *school* should be permitted to do so, he said.

The U.S. Senate is to vote this afternoon on Mr. Reagan's *constitutional* amendment but Mr. Bauer said the President will likely be six votes short of the required two-third's majority needed for passage. With public opinion polls showing widespread support for prayer in the *school*, Mr. Reagan will probably continue to raise the issue throughout the campaign.

None of the Canadian provinces prohibits prayer or Bible reading in the classroom, although provincial governments protect a student's right to be exempt from prayer.

Educators and government officials also said they saw no evidence in Canada of a rebirth of a commitment to religious values or growing popular support for prayer in *schools*.

The highly decentralized Canadian education system allows a wide variety of practices across the country, ranging from the church setting requirements for the public *school* system in Newfoundland to each *school* setting its own practice in Quebec.

Newfoundland is unique, Boyce Fradsham, the Education Ministry's director of *school* services said in an interview. The religious *denominations* first set up the *school* system and the province gradually took over responsibility for financing it. But the church retains considerable authority over curriculum, religious instruction and even requirements for teacher certification, he said.

The province safeguards individual choice by allowing children who object to be excused from class, he added.

The Ontario Government requires public *schools* to open or close each *school* day with religious exercises. However *school* boards are given latitude to provide a selection of religious prayers and readings to the teachers.

The Ecumenical Study Commission, a group representing five different religious groups, began a few years ago to lobby for changes, noting among other things how opening exercises were often carried out mechanically

through public address systems. But their efforts have not led to government action.

Manitoba has extensive regulations governing not only the selection of readings but also the length of time that can be spent on opening exercises. *School*boards are allowed to exempt *schools,*but if at least 60 parents petition for prayers, their children must be permitted to pray at *school.*

Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, PEI, Quebec, Saskatchewan and Alberta allow prayers but do not prescribe it. Although the practice varies from *school* to *school,*and in some cases class to class, many *school*children are not involved in it, officials said.

ADDED SEARCH TERMS: Canada education religion prayer

840190023 THU JAN.19,1984 PAGE: P13
BYLINE: MARGOT GIBB-CLARK
CLASS: *News*
DATELINE: Quebec P2 WORDS: 487

** Quebec wants education guarantees changed **

By MARGOT GIBB-CLARK
Globe and Mail Reporter

QUEBEC - Quebec would like to see an amendment to education provisions of the Canadian *Constitution* and would be willing to discuss such a proposal if the federal Government were interested, Education Minister Camille Laurin said yesterday.

But Dr. Laurin said he does not see any contradiction in Quebec's willingness to discuss *constitutional* change, even though the province does not accept the validity of the new Canadian *constitution.*

"No, there is no contradiction. We are still in Canada and we think (Section) 93 is completely outdated," he told reporters during committee hearings over proposed educational reform in Quebec.

Section 93 of the *Constitution* guarantees the education rights of Protestant and Catholic minorities, but not of English and French - a situation many critics say is out of tune with contemporary mentality.

"The way the article is formulated doesn't correspond to the actual situation in society," Dr. Laurin said. "It serves as a hindrance to any change."

"I think it would be the responsibility of the federal Government to change an article which is evidently out of tune with the present situation. If they took this initiative we would surely participate in the discussion."

However, the minister denied Quebec had recently asked Ottawa to consider changing the education clause, saying only that the issue had come up regularly over the years when Quebec bureaucrats met with their federal counterparts.

The current Quebec proposal, Bill 40, would set up French and English *school*boards in most of the province, but would leave those *denominational*boards which existed in Montreal and Quebec City at the time of Confederation, because of Section 93.

Last week*constitutional*lawyer Gil Remillard also called for changes to get rid of what he called the "ambiguity" of Section 93. *Constitutional*negotiations were urgent, he said, because this article would handicap any in-depth reorganization of the*school*system.

The present wording of Section 93 has been one reason behind the failure of several recent attempts at education reform in Quebec, with the English minority clinging to existing Protestant*school*boards as its only *constitutional*protection.

Almost 20 years ago, the Parent Commission on education reform said it was time for unified*school*boards. Since then, other groups have suggested language-based boards.

Liberal justice critic Herbert Marx, a*constitutional*lawyer, said yesterday that in his opinion Bill 40 is safe from*constitutional* challenges because it leaves intact the Montreal and Quebec*denominational* boards.

But, he said, there might be another contradiction: Section 23 of the *Constitution*guarantees language rights and it is unclear how it ties in with Section 93.

Section 23 is being used in the current Ontario*Court*of*Appeal* challenge by Franco-Ontarians who claim they have the right to French *school*boards. In that case, Ontario Government lawyers have argued that the federal intent was to provide for French language education, but not minority language*school*boards.

ADDED SEARCH TERMS: Canada*constitution*Quebec education policy

840100146 TUE JAN.10,1984 PAGE: P10
BYLINE: MARGOT GIBB-CLARK
CLASS:*News*
DATELINE: QUEBEC CITY WORDS: 656

***School*boards irked **
** over Laurin decision **
** not to hear all briefs **
By MARGOT GIBB-CLARK
Globe and Mail Reporter

QUEBEC CITY - Education Minister Camille Laurin was criticized yesterday for deciding to hear less than a third of the groups preparing briefs on a major education reform for the province.

Bill 40, which has brought protests throughout Quebec over the last two years, has drawn a record 247 briefs, more than for the language *legislation.*With televised National Assembly committee hearings to begin today, Dr. Laurin announced he would hear 73 groups.

"This law will have fundamental repercussions in our society," Jacques Mongeau of Montreal's Island*School*Council said. "It isn't just a*school* board reorganization, it's a project which aims at state control of our *schools.*"

Mr. Mongeau and representatives of the province's Catholic and Protestant*school*board federations repeated their earlier call for the *legislation*to be withdrawn. And they insisted that all those who had

taken the trouble to write briefs be heard.

Dr. Laurin said Bill 40 would democratize the province's education system by concentrating much greater power at the bottom of the pyramid, with parents and in individual schools.

In the explanatory notes to the bill he said schools should be largely self-governing and each implement its own "educational scheme", suited to its particular environment, as decided on "through continuing collaboration" among parents, pupils and school staff. He tried to sell that view in a province-wide tour after publishing a white paper prior to tabling the bill last June.

The bill would also change the current denominational boards for French or English boards. All public school boards in Quebec are currently designated either Protestant or Catholic and several previous attempts to get rid of this system have failed.

Opponents, who come from almost every group in Quebec society, say the plan would emasculate school boards, which have been effective political opponents of the Education Department, and thus effectively concentrate power. A number of groups are also opposed to dropping denominational boards for either religious or constitutional reasons.

"If this bill is adopted as is, the school boards would be profoundly emasculated," Robert Chagnon, president of the Federation of Catholic School Commissions, said.

The school board representatives would not indicate yesterday what course of action they will take if Dr. Laurin refuses their request. He has said the list of groups to be heard is still open and that he cut the number of briefs to be heard to avoid repetition.

When asked why they held a press conference instead of trying to negotiate this with the Education Department, the school board representatives sent telegrams to the department over Christmas brought no response. Many groups didn't even receive the list of those due to be heard, Mr. Mongeau said, so they might not even realize they had been left out.

He also accused Dr. Laurin of setting up the order of appearances so that opposing groups are heard late at night or after several days. "The Island School Council represents a quarter of Quebec's students and we are being heard 41st," he said. The council represents all Montreal Island boards.

Protestant and Catholic boards across the province have already spent nearly \$1.5-million on publicity opposing the legislation. They plan to keep a press room open in a Quebec City hotel for the duration of the hearings and have been running television and radio ad campaigns.

At present in Quebec, 94 per cent of school board operating budgets come from the province. Local boards are only allowed to raise a maximum of 6 per cent. Curriculum is centralized and teacher contracts are negotiated province-wide every three years.

The twice-delayed hearings are scheduled over 16 days this month and next. Following the hearings, Dr. Laurin has said he hopes to see the law adopted by the time the National Assembly rises for the summer next June.

Liberal education critic Claude Ryan has said he feels at least another 70 of the groups should be heard.

ADDED SEARCH TERMS: Quebec education policy

833300339 SAT NOV.26,1983 PAGE: P4
BYLINE: ROBERT MATAS
CLASS:*News*
DATELINE: WORDS: 1339

** RC trustee chief optimistic **
** on aid for Grades 9, 10 **
By ROBERT MATAS

The Roman Catholic community in Ontario has tried every possible avenue in the past 100 years to reverse a Government decision to restrict public support for separate schools to the elementary grades.

Through six generations, they have demonstrated, petitioned and appealed. Occasionally, they persuaded political parties to carry their banner into the middle of Ontario election campaigns, but usually with disastrous results.

Their biggest gains have come from working quietly for small but significant steps toward their ultimate goal of full Government financing for a complete Catholic school system from kindergarten to high school graduation.

Catholic groups today are still using a wide diversity of tactics to press their demands. An Ottawa-based Catholic students' group recently launched another court challenge, a Catholic teacher's group continues to lobby provincial politicians and church members pursue what some describe as cocktail diplomacy.

But away from the spotlight, a group of separate school trustees has quietly been working on those small but significant steps that are gradually moving the Catholic school system another notch closer to its goal.

Chris Asseff, who has been involved in separate school politics since 1947, says he may be "clobbered" for being too optimistic. But he is counting on a significant change in Government policy before the Pope's visit next September.

The Catholic community took a beating in 1971, when the Liberal Party stood for full financing of the Catholic school system and did very poorly at the polls. Mr. Asseff, the executive director of the Ontario Separate School Trustees Association, said in a recent interview.

The trustees' association decided to change its strategy and concentrate on improving Government support only for Grades 9 and 10.

Ontario Education Minister Bette Stephenson indicated recently their tactics are succeeding. The Government is not seriously talking about extending public support to the end of high school. But it is looking at recognizing the additional costs for Grades 9 and 10, she said.

"We're working with them to provide an equitable arrangement," Dr. Stephenson said.

The arrangement sought by the trustees' association would cost at least \$12-million a year. The money would increase Government support for Grades 9 and 10 in Catholic schools to the same level as its support for non-denominational public schools.

Mr. Asseff said the significance of the arrangement is, to a large extent, symbolic. For the first time, the Ontario Government would be granting full recognition to two secondary school grades in the Catholic high school system.

The debate over public support for Catholic schools stretches back to

the Scott Act of 1863. The British North America Act of 1867 reinforced provisions of the Scott Act by guaranteeing Roman Catholic boards the right to maintain and levy a tax to support separate*school*boards.

The Ontario Government subsequently decided to limit its support to elementary*schools,*the level of schooling available in the separate*school*system at the time of Confederation.

However, there were differences in what was considered to be included in the elementary*school*system. The Catholic*schools*went up to Grade 10 and did not include high*school.*But elementary*school*in the public system ends with Grade 8.

The decision has had some bizarre results. The Government acknowledges that educating Grade 9 and 10 students costs about \$800 per student more than in the elementary grades. Nevertheless, Government grants to the Catholic system for Grades 9 and 10 are still based on elementary*school*costs.

For instance, at Michael Power-St. Joseph high*school*in Etobicoke, the gym was built with a Government grant for an elementary*school.*The high*school*students must cope with a gym for smaller children - lower ceilings, inadequate showers and less space.

Mr. Asseff said the first step toward full recognition was taken in the mid-1970s when former education minister Thomas Wells approved Grade 9 and 10 religious courses as high*school*credits. A few years later, the Government agreed to provide special grants for Grades 9 and 10. Last year, the Government approved a substantial increase in the special grants, leaving Catholic*schools*with \$351 per student less than public*schools.*

The next step was arranging for Government grants for trainable retarded students in Grade 9 and 10 in Catholic*schools.*The Government does not have to go much further to complete its support for Grades 9 and 10, although no formal announcements have been made or official recognition has been given.

Separate*school*supporters have also given the Government another reason for making the step. While enrolment in the public*school*system is declining, the Catholic*school*system is bulging at the seams.

Public*school*enrolment from junior kindergarten to Grade 10 dropped by 20 per cent during the 1970s to 837,941 from 1,047,055. Catholic*school*enrolment increased by about 2,000 students to 420,820.

The shift in Ontario's population explains the changes. The Statistics Canada 1981 census found that the population in the Metro Toronto region increased by 370,822 and 62 per cent were Catholics. About 35 per cent of the provincial population is now Catholic.

"The impact of the changes would clearly not be lost on the Conservatives," Liberal MPP Sean Conway said.

Yet Mr. Conway, who was actively involved in the 1971 campaign, was skeptical about the prospects of a shift in Government policy. Although Premier William Davis campaigned vigorously against extending aid, he has persuaded some separate*school*supporters that their best chances lie with the Conservatives, he said.

The main argument against Government support for Catholic*schools*- during the past century as well as today - has been that the Government should not finance two systems and possibly many more private*schools.*

"That's a legitimate response," Mr. Asseff said. But the separate*schools*are an integral part of the public*school*system in Ontario and not independent, he added.

William Kent, president of the Association of Large*School*Boards of

Ontario, said the non-Catholic*school*boards decided not to take an official position on the question of Government recognition for Catholic *schools.*They fear their comments would be misinterpreted and the debate would degenerate into a battle between religions.

But the boards are very concerned about where the Government will find money to meet the demands of the Catholic*schools.*After the Government decides on the principle of recognition, someone has to ask if the province can afford it, he said.

"We've been told that the financial pie is only so large and, whatever happens, the pie will not get larger. If they (the Government) are going to give the separate*schools*more money, then they are going to be taking from someone else," Mr. Kent said.

The public*school*boards have been hanging on "by their fingernails," he added. An "alarming" number of programs are already underfinanced. In Peel Region, the board of education does not have enough money even to hire substitutes whenever a regular teacher is sick, said Mr. Kent, who is also chairman of the Peel Board of Education.

The public boards also want the Government to ensure that the Catholic *schools*accept the same responsibilities as the public*schools*if they receive the same level of financing.

Most Catholic high*schools*cater to the academically oriented students that will go on to post-secondary education. They don't provide business or vocational training. The public*schools*must accept everyone who passes through their doorstep, Mr. Kent said.

Richard Chiarelli, a trustee on the Carleton Roman Catholic Separate *School*Board, is also concerned about Government recognition of Grades 9 and 10.

As president of the Ontario Student Alliance for Fair Funding, Mr. Chiarelli began*court*action this year to win full financing for Catholic high*schools.*The student group expected the Government would try to undermine support for the*court*case, he added.

"The Government knows we cannot afford the*court*case without contributions to pay for it. But by giving something to the quietest lobby group, the Government is leaving the impression that progress is made by gradualism," Mr. Chiarelli said.

ADDED SEARCH TERMS: Ontario government grants education finance Roman Catholic Separate*Schools*

831030060 WED APR.13,1983 PAGE: P10
CLASS:*News* SOURCE: CP
DATELINE: ST. JOHN'S WORDS: 514

** Most*schools*closed **
** by contract dispute **
** in Newfoundland **

ST. JOHN'S (CP) - All but a few of Newfoundland's 650 public*schools*were closed yesterday on the first day of a province-wide strike-lockout of the 7,600-member Newfoundland Teachers Association.

The association is pitted against the*school*boards' federation and the

provincial Government and none of the parties gave any sign they were prepared to resume the long-stalled contract talks.

Both sides indicated they were ready for a long shutdown.

As the doors closed on all but 78 schools, both sides cried foul at the other's tactics. Teachers' spokesmen said the closings were lockouts because union members reported for work and were turned away.

Kevin Breen, director of the school boards' federation, said the teachers threatened to remove some services and were therefore on strike.

Under teachers' collective bargaining legislation, a strike is defined in part as 'slowdowns or any other concerted activity on the part of teachers designed to restrict or limit (work) output.'

Schools were quiet and pickets were rare. Most teachers simply went home when told their services were not required.

Most of the schools still open were run by Pentecostal or Seventh-Day Adventist churches in Newfoundland's denominational school system.

The two sects oppose strikes on principle.

Twenty-two other schools in different parts of the province were open because their principals had assured local school boards that all services would be offered. Principals are included in the teachers' bargaining unit.

The teachers, frustrated by an 18-month contract dispute with the province, had threatened to stop supervising school buses and lunchrooms, attend meetings, meet parents or take part in extra-curricular activities for the province's 150,000 students.

The dispute centres on a proposed one-third pay cut for substitute teachers, class sizes, job security and the Government's program to limit wage increases to 5 per cent in one year and 4 per cent the next year of a two-year program.

No bargaining sessions were planned, and Education Minister Lynne Verge said she did not even try to head off the closings because she felt there was no hope.

Union president Wayne Noseworthy had a tough time with callers to an open-line radio show in the morning, most of whom condemned the union.

Mr. Noseworthy said the schools were closed by the boards, not the teachers, and the Government had bargained in bad faith.

He said the Government rejected the union's offer to accept binding arbitration of the dispute. Lynne Verge has said arbitration was rejected because it would have limited the Government's flexibility in dealing with its employees.

The Roman Catholic, United and Anglican churches issued a joint statement calling on the two sides to resume negotiations 'for the sake of the school pupils who seem to be the ones destined to bear the brunt of this unfortunate situation.'

Lynne Verge said there is no point in talking to the union until it formally agrees to accept the wage-restraint program.

However, Mr. Noseworthy said the union officially agreed to the restraints at the bargaining table and money is not an issue for the union.

ADDED SEARCH TERMS: Newfoundland teachers strikes

.....

WORDS: 200

PRINCEBORN: NORVEGE 1.2										NORWEG: 000									
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20

Dr. Laurin's scheme was intended to make schools more democratic by giving parents greater decision-making power, but Allan Butler, chairman of the Protestant School Board of Greater Montreal, said Dr. Laurin's real intention is "to centralize power within the Education Department."

ADDED SEARCH TERMS: Quebec education policy

grants to pay for expansion of the Catholic system, several members of the Catholic community said in interviews.

The Ontario Secondary*School*Teachers Federation, the wealthiest teachers' group in the province, represents 35,000 teachers. The Ontario English Catholic Teachers Federation represents 23,000 high*school* teachers.

If the change in Government policy results in a shift of as many teachers as the OSSTF predicts, its membership will be reduced to about 27,000, while the Catholic federation membership will rise to more than 30,000.

The financial authority of the non-denominational boards will also be weakened once property taxes paid by Catholic parents are no longer transferred to the non-denominational high*school*system.

Meanwhile, Catholic*school*officials are also worried about the shifts within the Catholic community.

Many Catholic high*schools*have been kept alive by the dedication of religious orders, whose priests and nuns saw teaching as a vocation.

But with full Government financing, the religious orders may turn away from the*schools*to serve in needier areas.

Government financing may also undermine parent involvement in Catholic *schools.*Parents who have struggled to build the private Catholic*school* in their neighborhood remain involved. Without the struggle to pay the bills, the*schools*may lose one of their most valuable assets.

Several*school*trustees, teachers and parents were initially worried about provisions which would open up the parochial system to non-Catholic teachers and students.

But administrators and educators have developed several responses to satisfy those concerns, leaving only small groups of parents and teachers to be convinced that the Catholic nature of the*schools*will be protected.

While the Catholic community wrestles with the implications of its unexpected victory, some outside the Catholic*school*system are issuing dire warnings about the consequences the policy change.

Mark Holmes, a professor in the department of educational administration at the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education, sketched out two scenarios in a recent OISE newsletter.

The optimistic side is that non-denominational*schools*will rise to the challenge of competition and Catholic*schools*will have to struggle to maintain their enrolment.

The second scenario is that public secondary*schools*will become the equivalent of Canada Manpower Centres - the place for those with no place else to go.

The OSSTF has already sounded the alarm for the end of the public *school*system. It estimates 8,000 jobs would be lost if all Catholic students in the non-*denominational*system transferred into the Catholic *school*system.

Mr. Holmes predicts a massive shift in real estate if all Catholic children attend Catholic*schools.*Non-denominational*schools*will be re-christened as Catholic*schools*in almost every Ontario community, from Kenora to Ottawa.

Conditions in the non-denominational*schools*will deteriorate as they lose their best students to Catholic or private*schools.*The*schools*will likely resort to blaming the calibre of the student body for everything that goes wrong with the*schools,*he suggested.

The Catholic community, though, does not anticipate substantial expansion of its*school*system.

Ed McMahon, chairman of the Metro Separate*School*Board in Metro Toronto, insists the*school*board will not be required to hire any more high*school*teachers.

Pressed in an interview to estimate how many teachers in the province may be affected, John Fauteux, president of the Ontario English Catholic Teachers Federation, suggested a maximum of 2,000 teachers.

Catholic predictions of minimal disruption are based on a perception of the Catholic*school*as something more than a place to learn the three Rs.

The*school*is an integral part of a mostly homogeneous Catholic community, reinforcing Catholic values taught by the Church and practiced in the home, teachers, trustees and priests said in interviews.

Teachers and students will not find Catholic*schools*attractive unless they share pride in the Catholic nature of the*school,*which entails prayers at the beginning of every day and sometimes at the beginning of each class, a way of living that is consistent with Catholic tenets and a willingness to participate actively in the*school*community.

The Catholic high*school*system has grown considerably in the past decade.

The Catholic High*School*Commission, a 10-member board appointed by the archbishop of Toronto to supervise Catholic high*schools*from Oshawa to Oakville, was responsible for 21 high*schools*in 1971. The commission now runs 43 high*schools.*

Across Ontario, about 43,000 students were enrolled in 78 Catholic high*schools*10 years ago. By 1983, the Catholic community was supporting about 71,300 students in 107 high*schools.*

But several*schools*are overcrowded and must rely on poorly insulated portable classrooms. Many*schools*lack shops, proper libraries, cafeterias and gyms.

Government financing will mean parents will no longer have to pay tuition, which runs between \$600 and \$1,100, or buy books and uniforms, which adds an additional \$200 to \$300 to the cost of*school.*

The fees cover as little as 25 per cent of the cost at some*schools,* said Leo Dupuis, the Catholic High*School*Commission's executive director. The remainder is raised through lotteries, bake sales and bingos or contributions from the teachers, the parish church and the community.

Parents and students who have steered clear of Catholic*schools*have done so for reasons other than the cost, he said. The*school*is too far away, friends are going to another*school*or a specific program has a better reputation at a different*school.*

Those reasons will likely not change with Government financing, he said.

The identity of the Catholic*school*system does not depend on its financing, Mr. Dupuis added.

ADDED SEARCH TERMS: Roman Catholic Church Ontario separate*schools* education

.....

842920298 THU OCT. 18, 1984 PAGE: M2

BYLINE: ROBERT MATAS

CLASS:*News*

DATELINE:

WORDS: 432

.....

**** Commission plans hearings ****
**** Politics not seen affecting RC probe ****

By ROBERT MATAS

The Ontario Conservative leadership race, followed possibly by a provincial election, will not affect the controversial work of a commission dealing with Government aid to Catholic high schools, says commission chairman William Newnham.

The Conservative party is expected to hold a leadership race in mid-January to choose a successor to Premier William Davis. Many observers expect an election will be called shortly afterward.

At the same time, the commission will be holding a series of public hearings across the province. Ten hearings in major centres have been scheduled from mid-November to mid-February.

The historic education policy has sparked some controversy over whether non-Catholic teachers and students would be accepted by Government-supported Catholic high schools and whether money would be diverted from the financially starved non-denominational school system to the new Catholic high schools.

However, Mr. Newnham said yesterday he does not expect the controversy surrounding Government aid to Catholic schools to be dragged into the political forum.

The commission has a clear mandate to make recommendations concerning implementation of Government policies, he said. Regardless of what happens in the leadership race or a possible election, the commission will proceed "in good faith" with its work, he said.

Edmund Nelligan, vice-chairman of the commission, said during a news conference the Government may not have time to pass the appropriate legislation by September, when the policy is to come into effect.

The changes, though, could be implemented by a Cabinet decree for September and legislation introduced at a later time, he said.

Mr. Newnham also downplayed concerns about access to the Catholic schools and about the cost of implementing the policy.

In some areas of Metro Toronto, Catholic schools do not have room for additional students and could not be forced to accept more children, he said. But in areas of the province such as Eastern Ontario, the Catholic school may be the only high school in the area and will have to accept non-Catholic students, Mr. Newnham said.

He said he expected the cost of Government aid would be close to the estimate provided by Mr. Davis of about \$40-million annually. Some critics have estimated that the new school system could cost more than \$100-million annually.

The proportion of Catholic parents who send their children to Catholic schools varies across the province from 60 to 90 per cent. Although firm forecasts have not yet been prepared on the number of children who will enroll in the Catholic high schools, Mr. Newnham said he did not expect a significant change in the proportions.

ADDED SEARCH TERMS: Ontario education Roman Catholic Church separate schools

842770098 WED OCT.03,1984 PAGE: M1
BYLINE: ROBERT MATAS
CLASS:*News*
DATELINE:

WORDS: 716

**** Outsiders welcome in RC*schools,*bishop says ****

By ROBERT MATAS

Roman Catholic*schools*in Ontario should accept non-Catholic students only if the parents are willing to accept the entire Christ-centred program of the*school*system, an Ontario bishop says.

As long as the*denominational*rights of the Catholic system are respected, the*schools*should also be prepared to hire non-Catholic teachers who lose their jobs as a result of students transferring to a government-financed Catholic*school*system, Most Rev. James Doyle of Peterborough, Ont., chairman of the education committee of the Ontario Conference of Catholic Bishops, said yesterday in an interview.

Bishop Doyle made the comments outside a meeting at a downtown hotel where the bishops were hammering out a statement in response to Premier William Davis's decision to extend Government financing to Catholic high *schools.*The three-day meeting is to end today.

Bishop Doyle's*appeal*to Catholic*school*trustees who do not want non-Catholic children or teachers in their system comes at the same time as a warning from the head of the government commission responsible for implementing the new education policies.

William Newnham, chairman of the commission for planning and implementing change in the governance and administration of secondary education in Ontario, has told Catholic*school*trustees from across the province that they have no choice: they must accept non-Catholic teachers.

He also cautioned trustees to think carefully before turning away non-Catholic students.

Speaking at a conference of*school*trustees and supervisory officers last week, Mr. Newnham reminded them of statements from the Second Vatican Council that point toward admitting non-Catholic students to Catholic *schools.*

Trustees and board officials are responsible for maintaining the Catholic ethos in the*schools*and students who are admitted will have to recognize that fact, he added.

Mr. Davis has said Catholic*schools*must hire non-Catholic teachers when the Government begins financing Catholic high*schools*in September, 1985. However he gave the Catholic*schools*more discretion with non-Catholic pupils, saying only that he hopes the*school*boards will consider universal access.

Several Catholic*school*trustees have said the Catholic nature of the *school*system may be threatened by an influx of non-Catholic students and non-Catholic teachers.

Ontario Education Minister Bette Stephenson has threatened, as a last resort, to*legislate*universal access to the*schools,*but Mr. Davis has not backed up the threat.

Bishop Doyle said in the interview he sees the issue of non-Catholics in the Catholic*school*system as a question of justice.

"Justice is the strictest of all virtues for a Christian," he said. "Where it is proven that the transfer of pupils to a Catholic system caused a non-Catholic to lose a job, we in justice have to consider

offering a job."

The bishop added that justice requires the Catholic*school*system to accept non-Catholic students under three conditions: if the parents accept the Catholic nature of the*schools,*if the*schools*have space and if the parents are willing to pay their*school*taxes to the Catholic*school*system.

He does not see Catholic*schools*becoming "an instrument of conversion" by accepting non-Catholic students. The*school*system is expected to create dedicated Christians, but in a pluralistic society, the*schools*cannot proselytize, Bishop Doyle said.

He also emphasized that, as a bishop, he was only offering his personal advice to the*school*trustees and was not dictating what they should do. "The bishops role is a religious role We are the guardians of the faith," he said.

Mr. Newnham said the commission expects the Catholic*school*boards and the non-denominational boards of education to co-operate in working out the implementation of the new education policies.

The separate*school*boards will be asked to submit to the commission plans for implementation, based on full discussion with the non-denominational*boards, he said. The plans will set out enrolment projections, response to the need for staff, how*schools*will be shared or transferred and measures for French-language education.

The commission is prepared to arbitrate between Catholic and non-denominational*boards. But trustees should work to solve problems by themselves, he said. "Arbitration can too easily become a process in which two parties find a third one to blame," Mr. Newnham said.

ADDED SEARCH TERMS: Ontario education government grants Roman Catholic Church separate*schools*

.....

842760311 TUE OCT.02,1984 PAGE: P1

BYLINE: ROBERT MATAS

CLASS:*News*

DATELINE:

WORDS: 442

MEMO: Afternoon Edition

.....

** RCs won't alter*school*priority **

By ROBERT MATAS

Roman Catholic*schools*in Ontario should accept non-Catholic students only if the parents are willing to accept the entire Christ-centred program of the*school*system, an Ontario bishop says.

As long as the*denominational*rights of the Catholic system are respected, the*schools*should also be prepared to hire non-Catholic teachers who lose their jobs as a result of students transferring to a government-financed Catholic*school*system, Most Rev. James Doyle of Peterborough, chairman of the education committee of the Ontario Conference of Catholic Bishops, said this morning in an interview.

The bishops are meeting this week behind closed doors at a downtown hotel to hammer out a statement in response to Premier William Davis' decision to extend Government financing to Catholic high*schools.*

Bishop Doyle said he sees the issue of non-Catholics in the Catholic *school*system as a question of justice.

"Justice is the strictest of all virtues for a Christian," he said.

"Where it is proven that the transfer of pupils to a Catholic system caused a non-Catholic to lose a job, we in justice have to consider offering a job," Bishop Doyle said.

The bishop added that he does not see the Catholic*schools*becoming "an instrument of conversion" by accepting non-Catholic students.

The*school*system is expected to create dedicated Christians, but in a pluralistic society the*schools*cannot take that approach, Bishop Doyle said.

Premier William Davis has announced that the Government will provide full financing to Catholic high*schools,*starting in September, 1985. The Catholic*schools*will be required to hire non-Catholic teachers but they will be required to accept non-Catholic children only if the*schools*have room, Mr. Davis has said.

Several Catholic*school*trustees said the Catholic*school*system should not accept non-Catholic students or hire non-Catholic teachers. Education Minister Bette Stephenson has threatened to*legislate*universal access to the*schools,*but the Premier has not backed up his minister's threat.

Bishop Doyle said the bishops' role in education is to advise and not direct the*school*boards. "The bishops are concerned with religion We are the guardians of the faith," he said.

Bishop Doyle has already brought his advice to a conference of separate *school*trustees from across the province. He suggested to them last week that they accept non-Catholic students under three conditions:

- . That parents accept the Catholic*school*program.
- . That the separate*schools*have room.
- . That parents pay their*school*taxes to the Catholic*school*system.

Under provincial law, only Catholics can now pay their taxes to the Catholic*school*system.

ADDED SEARCH TERMS: Ontario education government grants Roman Catholic Church separate*schools*

842570288 THU SEP.13,1984 PAGE: M5

BYLINE: ROBERT MATAS

CLASS:*News*

DATELINE:

WORDS: 819

** Public can participate in hearings on RC*school*financing **

By ROBERT MATAS

Public hearings will be held on Government financing of Catholic high *schools*in Ontario in the wake of concerns about implementation and the impact of the plan.

Ontario*school*trustees and teacher associations have been pressing for a forum on public aid to Catholic high*schools*ever since last June when Premier William Davis announced an extension of Government aid without consulting with any members of the education community.

During its inaugural meeting held privately yesterday, the recently