

£900 a year; but if they followed out the idea Mr. Beckett suggested they could devote the whole of it to boarding scholarships, and that would enable them to give twice as many boarding scholarships in one school as were given a year or two ago in the whole of New Zealand. That income would be sufficient to run the school just as efficiently as it is run now. The fees need not be raised at all above what they are now—in fact, they could be lowered if anything—and the benefit could be given to a very large number of persons.

32. *Mr. Lee.*] How do you propose to raise this £30,000?—I think they should have special powers to raise money on mortgage, or in any other way. I think the idea embodied in section 12 of the High Schools Reserve Act should apply, so that the Governor's assent should be necessary to every mortgage or mortgage of income, in order to prevent the estate being alienated from the trust or lost through mismanagement.

33. Have you any suggestion to make in regard to the site of the school?—I favour the site beyond the railway-line. Of course, there is an objection to the trains passing, but I think that is very small. The sawmill that was objected to is not very near. If they began to improve the land now, by five or ten years' time they should build the first boardinghouse there.

34. *Mr. Hogg.*] You recommend that there should be a high school in Wanganui with accommodation for 150 boys and girls?—Yes.

35. Do you not think the first thing to be considered is the desirability of establishing a high school, and leave the boardinghouses in abeyance in the meantime?—Yes. I propose, if an Act were passed in consequence of the recommendations of the Commission, for instance, that provision should be made for a site for a high school. That would not be a matter then for the Governors of the College at all. I presume the Government would be approached to give a grant for the building of the school. The trustees would only have to give 20 acres as a site.

36. Do you not think it is desirable to establish that school so that the immediate necessities of the young people of Wanganui might be met?—I think it should be done as soon as possible.

37. *Mr. Ngata.*] There will not be any necessity to take in day-scholars under the reconstruction of this Collegiate School?—They can take in day-scholars who wish to pay.

38. You provide for them in the proposed high school?—Yes. I say that from a hundred to a hundred and fifty are entitled to free education, but some of the pupils in the Collegiate School would not be entitled to free secondary education.

39. Most of them would not be?—I do not say most of them. If you take the Collegiate School report, you will find that the number who had not passed the Fifth Standard when they entered last year was thirty-seven, and the number who had not passed the Sixth Standard was thirty, so there are sixty-seven who would not be qualified, at all events; and some others might not have qualified.

40. There was a suggestion made by Mr. Empson that the Government village Native scholars should spend a year either at Te Aute or St. Stephen's before coming on to Wanganui?—I think it would be a year lost in most cases.

41. His idea was that a little polish should be given to these promising young men from the village schools before coming to Wanganui?—The Maori boy who has passed the Sixth Standard in a village school is just as capable and as polished, in my experience, as any other country boy who has passed the Sixth Standard in any country school.

42. *Mr. Hogg.*] I presume you intend to combine manual and technical instruction with the instruction given in the high school?—Yes; it is one of the regulations for free secondary education that every boy and girl must take at least one subject of manual instruction.

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