

Mr. J. Allen: It is a most important clause. When a teacher is appointed to a school, will he have a smaller salary than the one leaving?

Hon. Mr. Fowlds: Yes.

Mr. T. Mackenzie: He has not had the same experience.

Hon. Mr. Fowlds: If the teacher has had the same length of service in the grade the salary would be the same.

Mr. J. Allen: In VIIb the headmaster gets under the Bill £270 to £310. Under the Act the pay begins at £275; under the Bill it begins at £270.

Hon. Mr. Fowlds: That is to a new teacher coming in—one who has been promoted.

Mr. Hogben: But they get the annual increment; and if they begin below the present minimum they rise above the present maximum.

Mr. J. Allen: Yes, but perhaps this does not apply to any except a very few cases.

Hon. Mr. Fowlds: It applies to Grade 7 schools.

Mr. Hogben: The salary would rise to £310.

Mr. J. Allen: We admit he gets an increment; but some start lower than at present, and others do not. It is anomalous.

Hon. Mr. Fowlds: In the case under notice the teacher would get £270 instead of a much smaller salary. What would a teacher who starts at £210 get?

Mr. J. Allen: In your Bill a teacher who starts at £210 gets a maximum of £240, which is £10 less. The Bill is anomalous in regard to salaries.

Mr. Hogben: The anomalies existed before. The anomalies are cleared away by the Bill. What is perfectly regular may appear to be an anomaly if your standard of comparison is anomalous. A teacher who starts at £270 goes on to £310.

Mr. J. Allen: That is all right. What I do not approve of is the starting at £270.

Mr. Hogben: Unless you raise all the salaries still further you must have anomalies if you judge by the present scale. It is only in two or three cases that men start at smaller salaries.

Mr. J. Allen: More than three.

Mr. Hogben: I think you will only find two or three.

The Chairman: In a school of 25 a teacher who has a salary of £130 under the Act starts at £120 under the Bill.

Mr. Hogben: But his salary goes on to £150, which is £20 higher than under the Act. That cannot be called an anomaly.

Mr. T. Mackenzie: By doing away with the pupil-teacher system, would you not deprive many young people of openings in the country?

Mr. Hogben: I do not think the Bill will do that.

Mr. T. Mackenzie: I am very well satisfied with the Bill.

Mr. Sidey: When a teacher has attained a certain salary, what provision is there for the salary being kept up to that figure?

Mr. Hogben: The amendment to clause 7 handed in just now.

The Chairman: Have you got a statement prepared showing the position regarding the district high school?

Mr. Hogben handed in the following statement:—

PART V.—DISTRICT HIGH SCHOOLS.

Staff and Salaries in Secondary Department.

Average Attendance of Secondary Department.			Salaries payable to Assistants in the Secondary Department.				
		£	£	£	£	£	£
12-30 ...	...	150 to 180	...	...	...	...	...
31-70 ...	...	180 to 210	135 to 165	...	...	...	...
71-105 ...	...	210 to 240	165 to 180	135 to 165	...	...	...
106-140 ...	...	210 to 240	165 to 180	135 to 165	...	135 to 150	...
141-175 ...	...	240 to 270	180 to 210	165 to 180	150 to 180	135 to 165	...
176-210 ...	...	240 to 270	180 to 210	165 to 180	150 to 180	135 to 165	135 to 150

Mr. Hogben (in answer to *Mr. Buddo*): The effect might be to lower the salaries of some head teachers of district high schools—that is, in the case of new appointments.

Mr. Buddo: The head teacher is receiving more than the services he had given warranted?

Mr. Hogben: Some masters give more time to the secondary department than I think they should give.

Mr. J. Allen: Are we going into this district-high-school scheme now?

The Chairman: I think we will hold that over.

WEDNESDAY, 5TH AUGUST, 1908.

GEORGE HOGBEN, Inspector-General of Schools, examination continued. (No. 1.)

The Chairman: I have received several letters from teachers, and I propose to put some questions to *Mr. Hogben* with a view to getting answers to the letters in the evidence.

Mr. Hogben (in answer to the *Chairman*): I think 600 is quite large enough for any school. I do not think it desirable to encourage larger schools. In London schools are not encouraged to go beyond six or seven hundred.