

INSPECTOR BRUELS SUSPENDED AGAIN

WRITTEN CHARGES MADE IN COUNTY COUNCIL YESTERDAY AND ANOTHER INVESTIGATION DEMANDED.

That the investigation alleged to have been conducted by the Department of Education into the charges made in the County Council last January against Mr I. D. Bruels, Inspector of Public Schools for North Renfrew, is regarded by the members of the Council as having been a good deal of a farce was made perfectly clear at yesterday's sessions, when the attack on the Inspector was most vigorously renewed, culminating last night in the adoption of a resolution again suspending him from office, setting forth the charges in writing and demanding a complete investigation, with due notice of such investigation to be given to the Council and the secretaries of the various school sections in the Inspectorate.

The matter was introduced at the morning session by Messrs Biggs and Moffat, and in the evening these gentlemen presented their resolution. It provoked a lengthy discussion, for while all the members felt that the Council had been treated with contempt by the Department of Education, five held out strongly against suspension on the ground that such a procedure was unfair to the Inspector, who was virtually being convicted without trial and without even knowing that the charges were being preferred.

Others recalled indignantly his actions when he appeared before Council in January, and insisted that without suspension there would be little chance of a proper investigation. They ridiculed the investigation made by Chief Inspector Waugh, in which he was accompanied by Mr Bruels, and there was strong criticism of the Department for the course followed, while two or three members were most vigorous in denouncing the Inspector and one intimated that more charges would be forthcoming at the proper time.

The Observer refrains from giving a detailed report of the discussion at this time, believing that it would unfairly prejudice public sentiment against the Inspector pending the investigation which must now be held. After the vote had been taken and the resolution carried, another was adopted instructing the Clerk to immediately advise Mr Bruels of Council's action and instruct him to hand the keys of his office to the caretaker of the Court House, while Messrs Davidson, Russell, Beatty, Allan and Fraser were named as a Committee to engage a new Inspector in the event of Mr Bruels tendering his resignation or being dismissed from office.

Following is a summary of the resolution proposed by Messrs Moffat and Biggs: That Mr Bruels, Public School Inspector for North Renfrew, be suspended pending a full investigation, it being charged, among other things that he is guilty of showing partiality to certain teach-

ers, and guilty of permitting trustees to engage unqualified teachers without advertising for qualified teachers; that he encourages children of German descent to attend German schools to the detriment of the Public Schools; that he was incapable of marking the Entrance papers of 1915, or marked them incorrectly; that he was not capable of teaching the subjects for which he was engaged in Pembroke high school in 1913; that he allowed promotion examination papers to be distributed before the time specified by the Education Department and examinations in some of those cases were held before the proper time; that he treated qualified teachers unfairly by refusing them permission to teach in schools paying high salaries, and forcing them to take rural schools at lower salaries; that he is responsible for keeping some of the schools closed during the school term — in one case about six weeks, as well as other irregularities. The resolution further recounted the action taken last January in suspending Mr Bruels and claimed that the Minister of Education had reinstated him without investigation, the Chief Inspector coming here and going to some of the schools without giving members of the County Council an opportunity to substantiate the charges made, and the Council feeling that as the rate-payers pay Mr Bruels' salary they should at least have an opportunity to present their case. The resolution concluded by asking for a thorough investigation, due notice of such investigation to be given to the County Clerk and the secretaries of each school section in the Inspectorate.

The division on the resolution was as follows:

Yes — Messrs Dennison, Wingle, Roche, Moss, Scollard, Martin, Strong, Owens, Moffat, H. Legree, Omanique, Bolger, McCarthy, McHugh, O'Reilly, Andrews, Biggs, Allan, Alex. Stuart, R. M. Stewart, Fraser, Russell.—22.

Nays — Messrs Connelly, Beatty, Kirk, Davidson, Breen.—5.

Mr Thos. H. Moffat received on Saturday last a cablegram from his son, Major W. J. Moffat, announcing the safe arrival in England of the transport carrying the 130th and several other battalions. Wild rumors had been in circulation for some time regarding the transport, it being freely stated that she had been torpedoed, and, while few paid any heed to them the official announcement on Monday of her arrival at an English port allayed much anxiety among the friends of the boys. They are now entering upon a period of training in England and in a few months will take their places in the lines in France.