

# SCHOOL BOARD DID NOT HIRE TEACHER WITH GERMAN NAME

## Accommodation for Increasing Attendance Again Up for Discussion

One week from tomorrow, Friday December 31st the public schools will close and the children will be continually wowing Santa Claus and the school teachers will hie to the home fireside for the Yuletide holidays.

The School Board last night took a very liberal view of the query presented by Supervising Principal C. N. Mansell as to when the schools should reopen.

"What do the Act says," Chairman Goodfellow asked.

"The Public School Act says that the schools shall re-open on January 3rd, and that day will be Thursday. In order to be here for the re-opening of the school session a number of the teachers whose homes are in eastern Ontario, would have to leave their homes on New Year's day. If the schools are not going to open till the following Monday these teachers would have four days more at their homes," said Mr. Mansell.

The teachers had no objection to coming back on New Year's if it was necessary, it was explained, but they simply wanted to know the wishes of the Board on the matter, and the Board realizing that a number of the teachers are a long way from home, and they would be away from the homes for another six months, decided they should be willing to meet the teachers in a matter of that kind and grant them the extra days to finish out the holiday season at their homes. The schools will reopen on the day set by statute, and the teachers living in or close to the city will take their classes on January 3rd and the rooms taught by teachers going down east will not reopen until the Monday following New Year's day.

An invitation was extended to the members of the School Board to attend the Christmas tree entertainment of the North street school Kindergarten Thursday, Dec. 20, at 2 p. m.

The statutory meeting of the Public School Board takes place on Jan. 3rd at Central school, when the membership will be augmented by the representatives of the new Steelton area.

Just what to do for the best in supplying school accommodation for the increasing school population is a problem which the School Board finds it very difficult to deal with.

"Where are we getting to on this proposition?" asked Chairman Goodfellow, when the subject was brought to the attention of the board by Supervising Principal Mansell in asking what he was going to do with the extra classes promoted from one room to another.

"Everybody thought that this school was plenty large enough when it was being built," Dr. Goodfellow remarked, "and here we are overcrowded already."

Public School Inspector Green pointed out to the board that since the opening of the school session on September 1st there have been 35 children come to Central School alone from outside places.

To solve the problem for the present the School Board will arrange with the Board of Management of St. Andrew's Presbyterian church for a second room in the basement of the church for school purposes.

Four new teachers were engaged last night. They will replace teachers who are signing at Christmas and two are to teach new classes.

A large number of applications were presented by the secretary Miss Gibson, for the usual of the Board, some of which had been marked and recommended to the board by Inspector L. A. Green. Among the applications was one from Miss Overholt, at present teaching in Drumbo, Ont. The young woman holds a first class certificate and her qualifications and recommendations were very good, but there was so much evidence of German origin about the name to suit Trustees Haig and McCaig.

Trustee Haig thought the board should be above the idea of having any prejudice because of a name. This Board had a little experience along that line before, it was explained, and a teacher with a German name even would not be able to keep her influence over the children as she should, was the general feeling.

Trustee Ware remarked: "We are apt to be too id hearted and generous towards the Germans, and it would not be it to engage a teacher who would be suspected of being a German."

Trustee Haig argued that the Board was strict to raise the standard of the teaching staff and when they could get a teacher with a first class certificate he thought they should take it.

The argument did not change the view of the opposing trustees. The following ladies were chosen for the teaching staff. The Misses Ron and Miller for the Kindergarten, Miss McLean, Miss L. Hunter, M. W. Eakin, Miss Calder, and a substitute of Miss McPeck and Myrtle in event of any of the other things accepted positions elsewhere, will