TEACHERS' CONFERENCE.

CONCLUDING SESSIONS.

PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS.

The Teachers' Conference was resumed at the Trades Hall on Wednesday morning, under the Chairmanship of Dr. W. M. Cherry in the chair.

Comments and Suggestions.

In his opening address the President said he wanted to enquire into how they could do the best work in their schools. The teachers were not only men and women, but men and women working under the Government in the cause of education. Their special work was primary education, but as the majority of children attended another school after leaving the State School it was of importance that their work should be done in the best manner. He was thankful the day had gone when failures in other callings could enjoy the privilege of teaching. As a result of this, the Government was responsible for the education of its citizens, and the first question that direction was the training of the teachers. He did not think it was giving proper value for the money it spent; the question was—Was it spending the money wisely?

—Training a Teacher.

Looking at the system, a boy or girl who had passed the primary standard served in a school either as paid or unpaid monitors where the head teacher had nothing to do with instructing him how to teach. He had the chance of going up to the secondary school, but so long as he was untrained the Government was responsible for the school that was being run.

That was the reason why the Government was attempting to do something for the public schools. He thought that the University and the training schools should do something for the public schools in the same way as they did for the State Schools.

The universities should prepare the educational standards for the public schools. The head teachers should have the best possible training. If the public schools were to be the best, the head teacher must be the best.

—Organization.

The organization of the public schools was the same as that of the State Schools. There was no reason why they should not be as well organized and as well run. The public schools should have the same type of education as the State Schools. No one would argue that the State Schools were not up to the mark. The public schools must be as good as the State Schools.

—Conclusion.

The President concluded by saying that the public schools should be given the same opportunity as the State Schools. The Government was responsible for the education of its citizens, and the first question was, had the Government given the public schools the same opportunity as the State Schools. The public schools should be as well run, as well organized, and as well trained as the State Schools. The head teacher should have the same qualifications as the State School head teacher. The Government was responsible for the education of its citizens, and the first question was, had the Government given the public schools the same opportunity as the State Schools.