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## RETURN

To an Address presented to His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, requesting him to cause to be sent down to this House copies of all Orders in Council and Reports of the Superintendent of Education respecting the cancellation of Teachers' Certificates during the year 1889.

By Command.

JNO. ROBSON,

*Provincial Secretary.*

*Provincial Secretary's Office,*

*18th February, 1890.*

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*Copy of a Report of a Committee of the Honourable the Executive Council approved by His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor on the 4th December, 1889.*

The Committee of Council have had under consideration a communication from the Superintendent of Education, dated 3rd December, 1889, reporting that he had, by virtue of the provisions of the "Public School Act," cancelled the certificate of John N. Muir, for reasons stated, and recommending that said cancellation be approved.

The Committee advise approval.

Certified.

(Signed) A. CAMPBELL REDDIE,  
*Deputy Clerk Executive Council.*

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EDUCATION OFFICE,

December 3rd, 1889.

SIR,—I beg to report that John N. Muir, the holder of a First Class, Grade A, Certificate, is at the present time employed as teacher of English Public School.

I further beg to report that the said John N. Muir has persistently neglected, in his capacity of teacher, to obey the Rules and Regulations prescribed for the government of the Public Schools of this Province, which is proved by appended copies of monthly reports made by him now on file in this office.

I still further beg to report that the attention of the said John N. Muir having been called to neglect of his duties as a teacher by official letter of November 23rd, he not only replied in an indifferent and insolent manner, but published both letters in the Daily Times of this city, bearing date November 27th. (Copies of letters as well as excerpt from newspaper referred to are appended.)

Such publication is calculated, and was doubtless intended, to bring this Department into disrepute and lessen its influence.



In consequence of continued and wilful neglect to fulfil his duties as a teacher, as well as gross insolence shown in his communications with this office and through the public press, I have, this day, by virtue of the provisions of Sub-section (9) of Section 13 of the "Public School Act," cancelled the certificate of qualification to teach in the Public Schools of this Province held by the said John N. Muir, and I beg to recommend that the said cancellation be approved.

I have, etc.,

(Signed) S. D. POPE,  
*Superintendent of Education.*

*The Honourable John Robson,  
Provincial Secretary.*

VICTORIA, November 23rd, 1889.

SIR,—In the event of your appointment as teacher of a Public School, I request you to inform me whether or not it is your intention to obey the Rules and Regulations prescribed for the government of the Public Schools, or, in other words, to carry out in their integrity the authorized Regulations for the conduct of the same.

Permit me to point out to you the fact that you have reported to this office that the Rules and Regulations prescribed were not obeyed by you during last month and the early part of the present month while in charge of English Public School.

It must be apparent to you that neglect to obey the authorized Regulations cannot be tolerated.

I am, etc.,

(Signed) S. D. POPE,  
*Superintendent of Education.*

*J. N. Muir, Esq., Lulu Island.*

LULU ISLAND, November 25th, 1889.

SIR,—In reply to yours of the 23rd inst., I may state that I shall take your request into consideration when you comply with the following modest request: First, to furnish me with an official copy of the Rules and Regulations, which you ought to have done last August. Second, to send me a written or printed copy of your definition and official explanations of said Rules. Third, to state what meaning you attach to questions 24 and 25 of the Monthly Report. Fourth, to send me a copy of the Rules and Regulations which do not appear in the official book (such as that about not admitting pupils under six years of age into graded schools). Fifth, to state whether you yourself, in the event of your appointment as Superintendent of Education, intend to obey the Rules and Regulations prescribing your duties. Permit me to point out to you that the educational authorities were the cause of my reporting that the Rules and Regulations were not observed, and the people will not stand such tyranny much longer.

J. N. MUIR.

*S. D. Pope, Esq., Superintendent of Education, Victoria.*

[PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL.]

You may tell John Robson to keep his shirt on, and that I see through his little game. You know any one can blow soap bubbles through you. Read up the story of the unjust steward. I have often felt sorry for you; but I shall not cease exposing educational blundering until the Education Department does right because it is right, and not because it is compelled to do it.







## EDUCATION BRANCH OF PROVINCIAL SECRETARY'S DEPARTMENT.

*Monthly Report of English Public School for the Month ending November 30th, 1889.*

1. Prescribed school days.....	19	14. Expulsion of pupils.....	0
2. Days school was in session.....	19	15. Suspension.....	0
3. Total daily attendance.....	288	16. Truancy.....	0
4. Total actual attendance.....	286.5	17. Corporal punishment of pupils.....	0
5. Average daily attendance.....	15.15	18. Tardiness of pupils.....	9
6. Average actual attendance.....	15.07	19. Days' absence of teacher.....	0
7. Pupils actually attending during month..	23	20. Visits to school by trustees.....	4
8. Boys " " ".....	12	21. " " Supt. of Education....	0
9. Girls " " ".....	11	22. " " Inspector.....	0
10. Greatest number of pupils present at any session (A.M. or P.M.).....	20	23. " " other persons.....	0
11. Least " " ".....	8	24. Has Section 4 of Rule 8, Appendix A, been strictly observed?.....	No.
12. Highest register number in use to date....	27	25. Have all other Rules and Regulations been observed?.....	No.
13. Number of monthly reports sent to parents ...			

I hereby certify to the correctness of the above information.

J. N. MUIR, *Teacher.*

N.B.—This Report must be forwarded to the Superintendent of Education *within three days* after the close of each month, and a copy sent to the Secretary of the Board of School Trustees. In case of delay, satisfactory explanations must accompany this Report.

Reasons of Teacher's absence, and other necessary information, are to be given on the other side of this form, but no other matter should be written on it.

*The following was written by Mr. Muir at the top of this report:—*

On the 6th inst. I received an illegal notice which purported to close this school illegally. I therefore warn the Superintendent of Education that I shall hold him personally responsible if he ventures to retain my salary for this month of November or any part thereof.

*The following was written by Mr. Muir on the back of this report:—*

I had the honor of spending the afternoon of the 8th inst. in visiting the Victoria West School, as I found that Victoria City schools closed that day.

24. Impracticable.  
25. Impracticable.

## OFFICIAL THUNDER.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE TIMES.

SIR,—The ludicrous side of educational officialism may be seen from the following correspondence: To J. N. Muir, Esq., Lulu Island. Victoria, Nov. 23, 1889. Sir, In the event of your appointment as teacher of a public school, I request you to inform me whether or not it is your intention to obey the rules and regulations prescribed for the government of public schools, or in other words to carry out in their integrity the authorized regulations for the conduct of the same. Permit me to point out to you the fact that you have reported to this office that the rules and regulations prescribed were not obeyed by you during last month and the early part of the present month, while in charge of English public school. It must be apparent to you that neglect to obey the authorized regulations cannot be tolerated. Yours truly,

S. D. POPE, Superintendent of Education.

REPLY.

To S. D. Pope, Esq., Victoria.

LULU ISLAND, Nov. 25, 1889.

SIR,—In reply to yours of the 23rd inst., I may state that I shall take your request into consideration, when you comply with the following *modest* request: First, to furnish me with an official copy of the rules and regulations, which you ought to have done last August. *Second*, to send me a written or printed copy of your definition and official explanation of said rules. *Third*, to state what meaning you attach to questions 24 and 25 of the monthly report. *Fourth*, to send me a copy of the rules and regulations which do not appear in the official book (such as that about not admitting pupils under six years of age into graded schools). *Fifth*, to state whether you yourself, in the event of your appointment as superintendent of education, intend to obey the rules and regulations prescribing your duties. Permit me to point out to you that the educational authorities were the cause of my reporting that the rules and regulations were not observed, and the people will not stand such tyranny much longer.

J. N. MUIR.

VICTORIA, B. C.:

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