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Teachers' Diplomas.

We copy *in extenso* a short statute passed during last session on the above subject. This law being very short and clear, will speak for itself.

It was feared that the obligation which bound certain teachers to renew their diplomas after three years, would in many cases be a hardship. By the new statute the matter is left to be regulated by the Council of Public Instruction. Until regulations shall have been passed by that body, and approved by His Excellency the Governor General in Council, all diplomas will remain in force.

AN ACT TO AMEND CHAPTER FIFTEEN OF THE CONSOLIDATED STATUTES FOR LOWER CANADA, RESPECTING EDUCATION.

Whereas it would conduce to the advancement of Education in Lower Canada to extend the duration of certificates granted to teachers under the one hundred and fifth and one hundred and sixth sections of Chapter Fifteen of the Consolidated Statutes for Lower Canada; Therefore, Her Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council and Assembly of Canada, enacts as follows:—

1. The one hundred and sixth section of Chapter fifteenth of the Consolidated Statutes for Lower Canada, is hereby so amended as to read thus:—

106. The certificates granted and to be granted by every such Board constituted under the next preceding section, shall only avail for the employment of the Teachers obtaining the same, within such County or Counties, and for such class or classes of Schools, as the Governor in Council, upon the report of the Council of Public Instruction, may from time to time ordain; and those granted after the fourth day of March, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-nine, by the several Boards of Examiners in the Cities of Montreal and Quebec, and in the Districts of Kamouraska, Gaspé, Three Rivers and Ottawa, and in the Counties of Sherbrooke and Stanstead respectively, shall in like manner only avail for such territorial limit, and for such class or classes of Schools, as the Governor in Council upon like report may from time to time ordain.

2. The Council of Public Instruction for Lower Canada, by regulation to be approved by the Governor in Council, may from time to time provide in such manner, and under such conditions as may be deemed expedient, for requiring any Teacher or Teachers holding any certificate granted by any Board of Examiners of Teachers in Lower Canada, to submit to examination *de novo*, by such Board; and in default of any such Teacher so doing, or in case of failure thereupon for any cause to obtain a new certificate, the certificate theretofore granted shall become and be held null and void.

Re-opening of the School of Agriculture of St. Anne.

We reproduce the following information from the *Gazette des Campagnes*. The number of pupils who entered the School of Agriculture of Ste. Anne from the first of September, when the present term commenced, to the end of that month, was thirteen. Of this number, ten were entitled to the bursaries founded by the Board of Agriculture for Lower Canada, and three were left entirely dependent on their own resources.

As those who enter this school to prepare themselves for so

useful an occupation as that of the agriculturist deserve honorable mention, we subjoin their names, which are as follows:

Michel Gauvin, Ancienne Lorette; Augustin Fortin and Auguste Gagné, Islet; Adéard Forgues, St. Michel (Bellechasse); Cyprien Langlois, St. Laurent (Isle d'Orléans); Ernest Ouellet, Ste. Anne; Elie Lepage, Rimouski; Narcisse Gauvin, Ancienne Lorette; Damase Roy, St. Valier (Bellechasse); Ephrem Desnoyers, St. Jean-Baptiste (Rouville); John Hector, Toronto; Pierre Valois, Point Claire (Montreal); Jacques Cartier, St. Antoine (Chambly).

Twelve additional pupils were expected in the earlier part of the present month, ten of whom were to be inscribed on the roll as bursars. This will make the attendance much greater than in previous years,—a gratifying proof that scientific agriculture is steadily gaining friends in Canada and that the prospect of ultimate success is encouraging and satisfactory.

To gain admittance to the school it is requisite that candidates shall, 1st, present unimpeachable testimonials as to morals and character; 2ndly, they must be at least sixteen years of age; and 3rdly, they must be able to read and write the French language, and possess a knowledge of the first four rules of arithmetic.

Pupils will be charged twenty-four dollars a year, payable in advance in instalments of eight dollars each, the Terms ending the 1st January, 1st May, and 31st December. Whenever a Term shall have been commenced the fee must be paid in full, even if the pupil shall be absent or leave the school altogether. On payment of the fee a pupil, besides receiving instruction, will be entitled to admittance to the library, to the use of the tools and implements, and he will also be supplied with bed and bedding excepting sheets.

Books, paper and other articles of stationery will be furnished at the request of parents, and charged at the prices current in Quebec. This will probably average one or two dollars more per annum.

The boarding department is conducted by Madame E. Ouellet, under the immediate surveillance of the Principal. Terms \$6 a month, payable in advance.

The pupils enjoying the partial bursaries founded by the Board will be required to pay but \$2 each term for instruction, and \$3 per month for board.

Twenty-seventh Meeting of the Teachers' Association in connection with Jacques-Cartier Normal School.

This Convention met on the 25th August last.

Present: The Hon. the Superintendent of Education, Messrs. Caron, Valade and Stenson, Inspectors of Schools; Mr. J. E. Paradis, President; Mr. Emard, Vice-President; Messrs. L. H. Bellerose, H. T. Chagnon, A. Dalpé, H. E. Martineau and J. B. Priou, Members of the Council of the Association; Messrs. U. E. Archambault, A. Aubuchon, S. Aubuchon, C. Brault, H. C. H. Chagnon, C. Ferland, N. Gervais, B. Guérin, M. Guétin, O. Lamarche, A. Lamy, A. Mallet, H. O'Regan, L. René, H. Rondeau, J. E. Roy, P. H. St. Hilaire and the teacher-pupils of the Normal School.

The Secretary being absent, Mr. Archambault consented to act in his place.

The minutes of last meeting (held in May) were read and approved.

Mr. N. Gervais read a paper on the necessity of adopting an improved course of studies in the schools, in which he showed how this object could be attained with advantage.

Messrs. Caron, Stenson, Lamy, H. E. Martineau, St. Hilaire and Archambault ably discussed the question, whether the definitions of the rules of arithmetic should be learned by children, or whether they should merely be explained to them.

Mr. Emard, president of the meeting, in a review of the debate expressed his gratification at finding that the great majority of the speakers were of the opinion that the definitions of the rules of arithmetic should be learned by heart, in accordance with the principle that in teaching, a text should always be referred to.

Mr. C. Brault read a paper on *Meteorology*.