

The Chatham Daily Planet.

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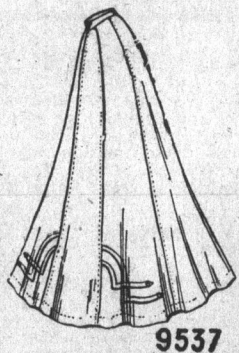
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CHATHAM IS DESERVING OF A SUMMER SCHOOL

Ladies of Ursuline Academy Follow Up The Planet's Suggestion

Board Of Education Is Petitioned For Assistance—Should Act Soon

On Monday The Planet published an editorial comment in which it was stated that as it is announced that the Government is said to be considering the advisability of establishing a series of summer schools for the professional training of members of educational and religious communities, and as Chatham is one of the most important centres among the teachers who will be effected, that some effort should be made to induce the Government to establish one of these schools in the Maple City.

The editorial has been very favorably commented upon by people who are interested in educational matters, and at last night's meeting of the Board of Education, the ladies of the Ursuline Academy presented a petition asking the Board to do all in their power to assist in securing this summer school, as was suggested in The Planet article.

The following was the letter received:

To the Members of the Board of Education:
Gentlemen,—The enclosed article from The Chatham Planet will explain our object in addressing you this evening.

It would be a great advantage for the teaching staff of our several Separate schools should one of the summer schools be established in our city, and we gladly offer our Academy for this purpose, also any assistance that lies in our power.

We now humbly petition you, esteemed honorable Board, to kindly exercise your influence to obtain this favor for our community.

Trusting you will not find us intrusive, and hoping for an encouraging reply, we have the honor to remain with great respect,

Yours very cordially,
MOTHER M. NATIVITY,
Superintendent of "The Finest," Chatham.

Dr. McKeough, after reading the letter, made a few explanatory remarks. He said that no doubt all of the members of the Board had read the article referred to. It was thought that a resolution from the Board to the Department of Education might have some influence in getting one of these schools for Chatham. A summer school had been held in Chatham before, and it had proved a great convenience to the teachers who wished to attend. There were about 100 teachers in attendance at that time, and the effect was good. We had difficulty in getting it before, but the present Government at Toronto, he said, had not done very much for Chatham educationally, and he thought they would be anxious to do this much.

The matter of the communication was finally left with a committee composed of Messrs. McKeough, Duncan, McArthur, McLachlan and Morley, with power to draft such resolution. The Secretary was instructed to reply to the ladies of the Academy, and instruct them as to what had been done.

The owl may be wise, and yet he looks on the dark side of things.

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Canadian Capital Coming In

Toronto, May 7.—Messrs. Mackenzie & Mann are investing \$1,000,000 in the Tilbury oil fields in Kent County. Such was the information given out at the offices of Dreany & Co., Traders' Bank building. This firm also states that considerable Toronto capital is now going into the Kent oil and natural gas fields. Heretofore operations in this district have been carried on practically

BOARD WILL CONSIDER INCREASES IN SALARIES

The Collegiate Institute Teachers Present A Very Courteous Request

Board of Education believes In Encouraging Its Employees—A New Gym.

There were several matters of importance before the Board of Education last evening. The meeting, however, was not unnecessarily long, and it was conducted in a thoroughly business-like manner.

The Finance committee recommended the payment of several accounts for salaries, etc., and asked for more information on the accounts of W. M. Drader for \$3.75, and another account in favor of Campbell & Crump. They were given power to settle.

TO CONSIDER INCREASES.

The Collegiate Institute teachers asked that their salaries be placed upon a schedule basis. What they asked was that the principal's salary be fixed at \$1,800, specialists at \$1,400, assistant specialists' salaries \$1,100, and assistants at \$1,000. They asked that increases of \$50 a year be made until the amounts as given in the schedule, are reached.

Dr. McKeough commented upon the very courteous and modest manner in which the request was made, and for himself, he thought that the teachers were not paid enough money. It was a matter which would have to be discussed in private, and he suggested that it be left to a committee to make a report to the Board.

The new schedule means a total increase over the present salaries of \$1,950, when all of the limits are reached.

Mr. Somerville thought that the Board should have the Government Inspector's report before them, in order that they might act intelligently.

Mr. McArthur thought that it would not be wise to act too quickly. He favored some increase, but he thought that the Board should pay their teachers enough money, that they would devote their whole time to the school work. He knew of some teachers now who are doing outside work. He did not think that it was possible for a teacher to do his best with his school duties, if he did not devote his whole time to them.

It was decided to include with the Collegiate Institute teachers, the principals of the Public schools.

Mr. Brackin asked, when this was brought up, why the Board were going to stir up the principals of the Public schools, when they were not asking for an increase.

The majority of the Board were of the opinion that a good teacher should not have to ask for an increase. When the Board sees that a teacher is deserving of an increase in salary, they should grant it without being asked to do so.

The matter was left with the Board as a committee of the whole. They will hold a special committee meeting and discuss the matter fully.

Mr. Morley reported on the improvements needed at the Collegiate. It would be necessary to change the upper class rooms, enlarge the skylight, repair stairways, do considerable painting, etc. The committee was empowered to appear before the Council and ask that the city issue debentures for the amount required for the work.

A NEW GYM.
At Mr. Brackin's wise and timely suggestion, the committee will also consider the advisability of erecting a new gymnasium at the same time that the other improvements are done.

The Internal Management Committee were empowered to purchase \$100 worth of supplies for the Science Department of the Collegiate. This amount will last for the whole year.

The matter of removing the fence around the Collegiate came up for discussion. There was an offer of \$15 for the fence. Mr. Twohey did not want the fence removed, and the Board thought that his wishes should be recognized in the matter. Mr. Stevenson will be given \$25 for cleaning the Cadet rifles. The Board thought that there was a moral obligation resting upon them to return the rifles in good shape.

A grant of \$10 was made to the Central School Garden. The Principal of the Collegiate was given authority to issue the Annual School Calendar. The schools were given permission to purchase seeds for flower baskets, and flower beds.

The trustees present at the meeting were, Chairman McKeough, and Messrs. Duncan, Morley, McArthur, McLachlan, Brackin, Richards and Somerville.

Dr. Neil Smith
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