

Editorial Note : and Comments.

The approach to the annual written examinations quickens the school-life of the province, and brings us all face to face with the requirements of the system under which we are working, and their practical bearing as a test of the year's work accomplished. The fact that the school examinations this year will be even more of a test than heretofore lends additional interest to the coming event of the year, and the indications are that the schools are all pretty well in line to pass the ordeal with credit. A circular will shortly be issued to the principals of our Superior Schools asking for statistics on which the preparations for the examinations are based, and it is important that these should be returned at the teacher's earliest convenience. The responsibility of having these examinations conducted with due attention to every regulation rests in a great measure upon the principal of the school, and he should feel it to be his duty to study carefully every regulation which bears upon the matter, in order that there may be no occasion for subsequent complaint. The reports of the examiners for the last year should be critically considered. They appeared in the November number of the EDUCATIONAL RECORD. It would indeed be gratifying to report this year that the manner of conducting the examination gave every satisfaction; and the teachers, in order to assist all in realizing such a result, should bear in mind that what may appear to them for the moment to be an unimportant matter of detail is of very great importance to the examiners when thousands of papers have to be corrected. The appearance of the papers this year in their neatness and arrangement will be considered, and receive recognition in the marks made upon them for the special bonus, and on no account should they be written on anything but the regulation size of paper. These and other items, however, will be mentioned in the circular, and hence we may content ourselves by reproducing the examiner's words in regard to last year's paper. "Every teacher knows how much easier it is to correct, without the possibility of doing an injustice to the candidate, a neatly-written and properly-arranged paper, than one which is neither of the regulation size nor clearly written out; and yet no less than twelve schools have altogether overlooked the easily-understood regulation—'The answers of the pupils shall be written upon half-pages of foolscap paper fastened together at the top left-hand corners,' while one of the academies and two of the model schools sent in papers which would lead one to