

The half-yearly convention of both Frontenac Co., and Kingston City Teachers' Associations, will be held as a joint meeting, at Kingston, April 21st and 22nd. Besides an attractive array of local talent, the valuable services of Wm. Scott, B.A., of Ottawa Normal School, have been secured. A successful meeting is anticipated. Haldimand Co. Teachers' Association will hold their convention at Caledonia, April 29th and 30th. It is probable that Dr. McLellan will attend, and a profitable time is expected.

Temperance, physiology and hygiene in a primary department in a cattle town in southern Kansas. Teacher: "Children, what is that hard substance you feel in your arms; now feel it." Children: "Bone." Teacher: "Correct. Now, what is that softer substance around the bone?" Children: "Meat." The teacher is somewhat surprised, but continued for the sake of learning something new. Teacher: "Well, what is that substance that encloses the bone and meat?" The answer came from sixty young voices: "Hide!"

Our esteemed contemporary, *The School Moderator*, Lansing, Mich., says:—"The CANADA SCHOOL JOURNAL very sensibly changes itself from a weekly to a semi-monthly. It is one of our best exchanges." Thanks, brother, for the high compliment. We have already received ample proofs of the wisdom of our course in the shape of a very largely increased circulation and encomiums from our subscribers as gratifying as unexpected. A general expression of satisfaction has allayed every feeling of anxiety we had respecting the change.

Alliston rejoices in a handsome new school building 45x62 feet, and three stories high, including the stone basement. The roof is of cottage architecture. The tower, which is built as a wing for the front entrance, is 10x16 feet, and 82 feet high, and has a bell weighing 205 pounds. The building is heated by coal furnaces, and the ventilation is regulated on modern principles. There are nine large rooms, besides spacious halls, &c. Mr. Hoath is principal, and he is ably assisted by Misses McDonnell, Anderson, Burnie, and Bell.

Children at first learn to sing entirely by imitation. It is, therefore, of the utmost importance that the pattern should be good. Observe the following rules: 1. *Never sing with the pupils.* Let them listen quietly to your pattern, and imitate. (In cases where the teacher cannot sing at all, a few of the more musical of the children may be called upon to sing the pattern.) 2. Let the pattern be short enough to be easily remembered. 3. The pattern must be *soft and distinct*. 4. Repeat the pattern till you get a soft, clear response from the class.—*Batchelor*.

If the teaching of natural science is carried on by teaching by rote the facts of the text-books, however important they may be, its true purpose is missed in the system of education. The training of the memory is of great importance, but it is provided for by other studies than the sciences. The teaching of natural science should aim at quickening the powers of perception, observation, and reason, — faculties of the highest importance in the duties of common life. Teachers should bear this fact in mind, and plan their methods of instruction accordingly.—*The Student*.

The following scale of salaries has been prepared for the London city schools:—Principal of Central, \$59 to \$67 per month, according to certificate; assistant principals (male), \$53 to \$60; (female), \$30 to \$36; teachers, \$29 to \$32; intermediate, \$27 to \$30. Primary schools.—Principals (male), \$49 to \$54; (females), \$33 to \$38; assistant principals, \$24.50 to \$29; teachers, \$21 to \$23.50. After forty years service, teachers to retire on a pension equal to one third of their salary; that teachers salaries be increased \$2 per month above the scale for every five years they have been employed in the city schools.

"Alpha," Richmond Hill, writes us:—"In glancing through the columns of *SCHOOL JOURNAL* recently I noticed a desire on the part of some one to make prominent mention of the fact that a pupil of 10 or 11 years of age had passed the Entrance Examination. Candidly, I was sadly surprised to find such a spirit. I believe it was the worst possible experience for that poor child. I pity the child, and deeply regret that we have in our profession teachers (?) who will attempt such forcing processes in mind growth. It is impossible that the child has fully grasped the subjects required at that examination; there must have been a deal of memory-stuffing. 'Tis true; 'tis pity, 'tis, &c. Let us have no more emulation for such bad eminence."

Ridgetown High School has been raised to the dignity of a Collegiate Institute. It has an attendance of 140 pupils, and is

furnished with all the requirements to maintain its position, including a first-class library, well-furnished laboratory and gymnasium. It has reached this distinction in a shorter time than any other Collegiate Institute in Ontario. It began as a High School, September, 1883, with an attendance of 30, and in one year increased to 100. The present head-master, G. A. Chase, M.A., with Mr. C. B. Sinclair, mathematical master, then constituted the staff. In January last year the school was moved into a new building, pronounced by the Minister of Education to be the finest High School building in the Western Peninsula. There are classes now reading Matriculation and First Year work of Toronto University, Honor Moderns in each, in addition to large classes for First Class, Second Class and Third Class Teachers' examinations. The present staff of teachers consist of G. A. Chase, M.A., Medalist in Moderns, Principal; J. G. Little, B.A., First Class Honors in Mathematics; R. A. Little, B.A., First Class Honors in Classics; J. Bruce, First Class Teachers' Certificate, and A. H. Sinclair, First Class Teachers' Certificate, and Prince of Wales Gold Medalist from Toronto Normal.

On a reconsideration of the salary question by the Finance Committee of the Toronto School Board, the following scale was proposed and adopted for payment in future of lady teachers:—

First year	\$324
Second year	324
Third year	348
Fourth year	372
Fifth year	396
Sixth year	420
Seventh year	444
Eighth year	468
Ninth year	492
Tenth year	516
Eleventh year	540
Twelfth year	564
Thirteenth year	588
Fourteenth year	612
Fifteenth year	636

The salary of no lady teacher now in the service of the board shall be reduced by the above scale; (2) that while the highest salary paid on the basis of length alone, to female teachers, will be \$636.00 per annum, due consideration will be given to the salary of those teachers who have served the board for fifteen years or more, and who may be called upon to fill any of the higher positions in the gift of the board; (3) that all lady teachers commencing duties before July 1st of each year shall rank as second year teachers on the 1st of January following, and all commencing duties after the 1st of July each year shall rank as second year teachers one year from the 1st of January following; (4) that the kindergarten teachers be paid \$250.00 each per annum. This arrangement will entail an increase of expenditure, this year, of \$4,998.

Question Drawer.

QUESTIONS.

I am a subscriber to your valuable paper. Will you kindly inform me through your next issue:—

1. If a person obtained a Third-class non-professional certificate at examination last July, can he teach more than a year on his third professional before going to the Normal School?
2. Does the teacher receive the government grant as part of his salary?
3. Is a paper in drawing going to be set at the entrance examination next July; or are the examiners going to assign marks from the drawing books?
4. What is the best history for a teacher who is preparing pupils for the entrance examination?

Steto, Kingston.

1. What is the law with regard to the practice of detaining pupils after four o'clock for the purpose of reciting improperly prepared lessons?
2. May pupils be detained after four as a punishment for misconduct during the day?
3. Has the teacher any right to detain pupils after four to give advice or inflict corporal punishment; or is the teacher forced to inflict all punishment between nine and four?