

EDITORIAL NOTES.

When we wrote last month upon the character of examination papers, we had not much concern as to the conduct of these examinations.

The things which have come to the public in the press and at meetings of the Senate of Toronto University have brought the conduct of public examinations unpleasantly into public notice.

Here are some of the statements made about the examinations held in Ontario last July :

1. That the bags containing the examination papers which are sent out by the Department had been in the hands of those to whom they were sent weeks before the examination took place.

2. That these bags were not taken proper care of. We will not give the details on this point, which have been given to us from a most reliable source.

3. That the answers of candidates to the proposed questions, which should have been guarded with the utmost care, were tampered with most shamefully.

4. That the time-table for the examination was not followed in several particulars : (a) papers were given to candidates days before the proper hour, (b) candidates were allowed, if late, to make up lost time, (c) if ill, were permitted to write longer than the time given on the time-table, to make up deficiency.

(d) That some of the presiding examiners were careless in regard to time of beginning, and closing the examination for each day, and to being present in the room when the candidates were or should have been writing their answers.

(e) That access was obtained by some persons to the room in which the answers of candidates were kept, and thus the answers of candidates might be completely changed.

Another statement has been made to us several years in succession, which is of a grave character and implies a lack of a proper sense of responsibility on the part of those concerned, but as there may be an explanation for it, with pleasure we withhold it for the present.

Such are some of the statements made regarding the examinations by those who ought to know whereof they speak. Meanwhile, those who wrote for honours and scholarships are waiting in provoking uncertainty and anxiety to hear the results of the examination.

We do not know personally how much truth there is in the above statements, but we believe that there is a good deal more truth than fiction. We all know that the state of matters is so grave that the Senate of the University of Toronto refused to accept the report of the examiners *re* the examination for honours and scholarships at matriculation in July, 1893. And that the proposal of the Minister of Education to hold an investigation into the doings connected with the late examination was accepted.

It is needless to remind our readers of the disappointment and chagrin of candidates and all those immediately interested, especially parents and masters. Evidently the authorities responsible for the annual examinations are face to face with a serious crisis in educational work. The question now is, what next ?

We are given to understand, upon very good authority, that one part of the experiment of this year will not be repeated. The examination for Scholarships will be held henceforth in the University Buildings and under the immediate control of the Senate of the University of Toronto. We