

Official Department.

EDUCATIONAL LEGISLATION.

1. High School Masters will henceforth elect two representatives to the Senate of the Toronto University, instead of one as formerly. These representatives, however, will now be elected by the head masters and their legally qualified assistants, so that the whole teaching staff will be represented as well as the head masters. This doubles the representation and quadruples the constituency. Next year the representation must be doubled again, and our legislators must not be allowed to forget it.

2. Power is given to the Senate of Toronto University to grant the LL D. degree without examination. The subject of Honorary Degrees will hardly bear even the most delicate handling. Least said is soonest mended. The influx of Honorary Degrees from obscure colleges in Michigan, Georgia, etc., perhaps made this step necessary. We sincerely hope that the Senate will prove ultra conservative on this point and religiously abstain from using the power conferred upon them.

3. Power is given the Convocation of Graduates to provide for the representation of members who are unable to be present at its meetings; and the meetings of Convocation are facilitated by some minor amendments. The power of the graduates in Convocation is, however, left as before, the shadow of a shadow.

4. Non-residents may require the school-tax on unoccupied land to be appropriated to a separate school situated within three miles, in a direct line, from said separate school.

5. Any board of separate school trustees, and the council of any municipality (three-fifths of whose members are not separate school supporters), may enter into an agreement for a term of years, that for each year of the said term, and at such times and in such sums as may be agreed upon, there shall, in lieu of and as being the amount to be levied and collected in such year for separate school purposes, be paid by said municipality to said board a fixed proportion of the total amount levied and collected within the municipality in and for such year for both public and separate school purposes, provided always, that if in and for any such year the rate in the dollar of assessment actually levied for separate school purposes within said municipality is not the same as that actually levied therein for public school purposes, then said agreement shall not be in force for or apply to such last mentioned year; provided also that any agreement made as aforesaid may be determined at the end of any calendar year on giving six months' notice by either of the parties thereto to the other party.

6. Mr. Gibson (Hamilton) moved—"That inasmuch as the Senate of Toronto University has for several years admitted women to the university examinations and class lists, and inasmuch as a considerable number of women have availed themselves of the privilege, but labor under the disadvantage of not having access to any institution which affords tuition necessary for the higher years in the course: in the opinion of this House provision should be made for the admission of women to University College." Motion carried after an animated discussion.

CHANGES RELATING TO THE EXAMINATIONS FOR TEACHERS' CERTIFICATES.

By regulations recently adopted, some changes are effected respecting the examinations for teachers' certificates in July next.

READING TEST INTRODUCED.

1. Reading has heretofore been neglected to a certain extent in our High Schools, and as a consequence no examination was required in this subject from candidates applying for second or third-class

certificates. The new regulations provide that every candidate must read a passage to be selected by the County Board of Examiners, and in the presence of an examiner appointed by the County Board for this purpose, the result of the test to be sent to the Education Department. It is thought by this means that greater attention will be paid to this very important subject of the school curriculum.

REGULATION REGARDING PENMANSHIP.

2. Another subject very much neglected is writing, and in this no standard was required. Under the new regulations excellence in penmanship will be absolutely necessary. Although writing is not generally regarded as a test of scholarship, still it is very desirable that greater attention should be paid to it in our Public Schools, and excellence in a teacher is one way of securing excellence in the pupil.

MUSIC AND DRAWING.

3. To encourage the study of music and drawing an examination may be passed in either or both of these subjects, and the number of marks obtained by the candidate will be added as a bonus to the total obtained in the obligatory subjects, and thus assist in making up the aggregate necessary for a certificate. It is hoped by this means to encourage the study of music and drawing in all the Public Schools of Ontario.

ORDER OF EXAMINATIONS.

4. The examinations for second-class will immediately follow the intermediate and third-class examinations, so that both can be taken by the same candidate, but third-class certificates will not be awarded on second-class papers.

AN ENTRANCE FEE.

5. Every candidate will be required to pay a fee of one dollar towards defraying the expenses of his examination. Heretofore these examinations have cost the Province between \$5,000 and \$6,000. It is considered just that candidates themselves should bear this burden, and in doing so they are only submitting to the obligation imposed upon candidates at the law examinations at Osgoode Hall and elsewhere.

RENEWAL OF CERTIFICATES.

6. It has been the practice of the Department in order to retain successful teachers in the profession to renew third-class certificates on the recommendation of the Inspector and the Board of School Trustees without re-examination. This custom has been found to operate injuriously. Many teachers were content to continue teaching on a third-class certificate, trusting to the indulgence of the Inspector and the exigencies of Boards of Trustees for a renewal. Under the new regulations no renewal can be obtained without re-examination except under very special circumstances, but in order to prevent the worthy teacher from leaving the profession the Inspector is to be allowed to add any number of marks up to 200 to the number made by such a candidate at the non-professional examination.

In this way the teacher is obliged to keep up with the educational advancement of the country by constantly revising his studies, and if successful his services receive an appropriate reward. It is also hoped that a re-examination will have the tendency of inducing many who would be disposed to repose upon their laurels to press into the higher ranks of their profession.

The following is the full list of the regulations regarding the forthcoming examinations:—

SUBJECTS FOR THE NON-PROFESSIONAL EXAMINATIONS.

NOTE.—It will be observed that the only material change introduced into the curriculum for the present year, is that the subjects of reading and writing are required. Candidates for the intermediate only will take the subjects 1 to 7, and either subjects 8, 9, or 11, as formerly.

THIRD-CLASS NON-PROFESSIONAL EXAMINATION.*

The obligatory subjects of this examination for 1894 are as follows:—

	Value.	Minimum required.
1. Reading.....	100	25
2. Writing.....	75	19
3. English Grammar.....	150	45
4. English Literature.....	150	37
5. Composition.....	100	25
6. Dictation.....	50	12
7. Arithmetic and Mensuration.....	150	45
8. { Algebra.....	100	25
{ Euclid.....	100	25
9. { History.....	75	19
{ Geography.....	75	19
10. Mental arithmetic.....	75	19
11. And any two of the following three:—(a) Natural philosophy, chemistry, botany...200		50
(b) Latin.		
(c) French.		
(d) German.		