

COULD HARDLY STAND AT TIMES

Hips, Back and Legs Would Have That Tired Ache

Everett, Washington.—"For several years I have had trouble with the lower part of my back and my hips and my legs would ache with that tired ache. I could hardly stand at times. I was always able to do my work although I did not feel good. I saw Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound advertised and having heard several praise it I decided to try it. I feel first-rate at the present time. It has done wonders for me and I keep it in the house right along. I always recommend it to others who are sick and ailing."—Mrs. J. M. Sweeney, 4022 High St., Everett, Washington.

To do any kind of work, or to play for that matter, is next to impossible if you are suffering from some form of female trouble. It may come your back or your legs to ache, it may make you nervous and irritable. You may be able to keep up and around, but you do not feel good. Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound is a medicine for women. It is especially adapted to relieve the cause of the trouble and then these annoying pains, aches and "no good" feelings disappear. It has done this for many, many women; why not give it a fair trial now.

THE PROGRESSIVE BOARD OF TRADE

Important Matters Discussed at a Recent Meet—Better Train Service Wanted

(Edmundston Observer)

The monthly meeting of the executive of the Board of Trade met in the Grand Jury room of the Court House on Wednesday night, the Hon. L. A. Dugal in the chair. The following members were present besides the Chairman: T. J. Scott, R. W. Hammond, J. J. Deagle, Major Rideout, W. C. Albert and W. B. Belyea, secretary. Matters in connection with the Quebec firm considering the establishment of a branch of their foundry here was gone into and progress reported. A communication in regard to the running of an exhibition train through France showing Canadian manufacturers and products was referred to the transportation committee.

A letter was read from the New Brunswick Board of Fire Underwriters in answer to one sent by the Board of Trade in regard to the excessive rates for fire insurance in Edmundston and the reduction of same. A promise that when certain conditions are fulfilled the rates would be reduced was given, and the matter was referred to the Town Council.

A special committee was appointed to see if something could not be done to better the passenger train service into Edmundston, the committee consisting of Hon. L. A. Dugal, Major Rideout, and W. C. Albert.

ECZEMA

You are not experiencing it, are you? It is a skin disease that is caused by an infection of the skin. It is a disease that is caused by an infection of the skin. It is a disease that is caused by an infection of the skin.



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EDUCATIONAL MATTERS ARE ASTOUNDING

Conditions in Edmundston Must Be Remedied with All Speed—New School Will Help

(Edmundston Observer)

D. E. Scribe is in receipt of the 3rd Annual report of the New Brunswick Vocational Board for the fiscal year ending June, 1921.

In this report is given of the new school to be erected in Edmundston this summer. It says in part:

"The Edmundston goes the honor of building the first Composite High School in the Province. The building will be ready for occupancy late in 1922. The school is planned to house Pre-Vocational Classes and Commercial, Industrial and Home-making Vocational Departments. In addition to the general education work."

This report also gives out exhibiting the interior and exterior of the building when completed, and showing how admirably fitted the school will be mechanically to fit girls and boys for the business life. In such a school a good corps of teachers and a sympathetic and efficient school board, with the support of the citizens, can revolutionize the educational situation in Edmundston.

That such a school is needed it is only necessary to look carefully at the findings of the educational survey made last December under the joint auspices of New Brunswick Vocational Education Board and the Edmundston Vocational Committee. The Edmundston committee comprised J. B. Michaud, L. R. Bolanger, W. R. Belyea, Hon. L. A. Dugal and G. P. Nicholson. In the analysis of School attendance it is shown that on the nearest estimate there are 561 boys and girls in Edmundston from twelve to seventeen years of age. Of that number only 295 were attending school. But the seriousness of the situation is not revealed there, for of that 296 attending school, 125 are retarded or over age—which only leaves a balance of 44 out of a total of 561 that are up to the ordinary school standard for their ages.

A still further examination reveals even more startling figures. At the age of 15, eighteen are attending school, and seventy-five are not getting any school training, and of that eighteen, eleven are retarded, or over age. At the age of sixteen, two are attending school, and ninety are already out in the battle of life, or playing on the streets. At any rate they are not in school. And of the two attending school, both are retarded in their studies. At the age of seventeen five are attending school, eighty-six are absent, and four of the five are backward in their studies.

Now we all know that the children of Edmundston are as bright as the children of any other place. They come from as good homes, and doubtless their parents are anxious that they should get an education. Such a wholesale, deplorable situation can be a large part be ascribed to the fact of the rapid growth of the town, and the inadequate school buildings. It is, however, true that it is a situation that cannot be remedied in a moment. It will be in part rectified by the new building, but the situation demands the co-operation of teachers, parents, school-board, and citizens. It demands the interest of employers of labor, and the clergy of the churches. Only in such a way can this blot be taken away, and Edmundston take her place as a leader in Education, as already she is a leader in industry.

To Fletcher Pollock, Director of Vocational Education, to whose efforts, in part, we are indebted for our composite High School to be, is due high praise, for the work he is doing throughout the Province.—D. E. Scribe.

NEW DOCTOR COMING

(Edmundston Observer)

Word has just been received that we are to have another doctor of medicine locate in our town—Doctor James Lockhart. He is expected here within the next two weeks and with Mrs. Lockhart will occupy a suite of rooms in Madame Theriault's residence, just off Canada road.

We understand that Dr. Lockhart served for three and half years overseas in the great war, and graduated gold medalist in his class last year. He is a McGill University man, and has been practicing during the past year in Bath. His home is in New Brunswick, his father residing in Bristol.

Doctor Lockhart will receive a warm welcome not only from the taxpayers here, but from the doctors, for they have felt the need in certain cases of a doctor who will of the same nationality as the patient, and besides which the population of the town is such that another doctor is needed.

HEALTH MESSAGE TO THE WORLD

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Just as oranges, apples, figs and prunes are nature's own medicine, so "Fruit-a-lives"—made from these fruit juices—but concentrated and intensified—is the greatest Stimulant and Liver Medicine, the greatest Kidney and Bladder Medicine—the greatest Blood Purifier—the greatest remedy for Heart-aches, Constipation, Indigestion, Nervousness and Bad Complexion—in the world. To be well, take "Fruit-a-lives".

60c a box, 6 for \$2.50, trial size 25c. At druggists or sent postpaid by Fruit-a-lives Limited, Ottawa.

HIGH SCHOOL FRENCH

(Edmundston Observer)

The following letter which recently appeared in a St. John paper, is worthy of reproduction. Mr. Patterson, our High School principal, is an enthusiastic French scholar.

Sir—Granted that an educated person should know the languages of his own country, French ought to be taught and taught well in the high schools of New Brunswick. One does not argue the value, yes necessity, of French in literature, in travel and in the higher political spheres.

Is French being taught in our high schools? No. For the most part that which passes for such is a farce—a crime. To be sure, teachers and pupils spend much special time on French, but they get precious little French. To be sure, pupils pass matriculation examinations, but we teachers know how it is done. The same examiner has for twenty-five years, or longer, set the same sort of stereotyped question on the same old texts, and a little clever coaching of a willing pupil does the trick. He is trained to construe likely passages into English, to write the conjunction of a few peculiar French verbs which he can neither use nor pronounce, to write a few selected English sentences in stilted French and he is ready. Since the reputation of teacher as well as pupil depends upon marks gained on this sort of examination, little wonder that teachers stoop to this stupid, unpedagogical coaching.

"The proof of the pudding is in the eating." How many high school graduates (English-speaking) can carry on the simplest conversation with a Frenchman—except in English? How many can read simple items from the French papers? How many can write a letter? The writer, in common with

others, graduated from the university with good marks in French, but soon found that he could not pronounce "Oui" correctly, nor decipher a street sign even with the aid of a dictionary. One meets men in the government services, also commercial men who are often inconvenienced because they cannot speak a little French. Yet these men studied French at high school, many of them in the university as well.

The cause of this is manifold. First, that something much be radically wrong when results are so pitiable. It won't do to say that the American does not speak French. The plain fact is our high schools do not teach French.

What is wrong? The whole thing is wrong. First of all, we are trying to teach French by a method, or lack of method, which killed the dead language a hundred years ago. Secondly, the prescribed text books, Macmillan's, Progressive French Course, are simply impossible. They were written before the teaching of modern languages became a science. Why, the grammars contain more English words than French and the student, while simple in plot, present too many structural difficulties for the beginner. Thirdly, how many teachers have had any training in methods of teaching languages? Many lack a knowledge even of French pronunciation. Even those who have a special qualification in that they speak French as their native tongue are utterly handicapped by lack of method and training, and by unsuitable text books.

The cure is obvious. First, a summer school where teachers may learn a little French and the "best method" of teaching the same. Second, a course founded on suitable text books. The best available would seem to be "Ocal Lessons in French." These have been prepared especially for the English schools of Quebec where their worth has been proved. They are written in five parts. Introducing French instead of Latin in grade VI, it would be possible to cover all five parts by the end of grade X. Grade XI might take up more formal grammar and selections from the American readers. As books of reference high school grades should have "Le Premier Annuaire de Grammaire" or "High School French Grammar" by Fraser and Squire, and Webster's French-English Dictionary. The cost of the pupil would not exceed that of the present text books.

These reforms could be readily carried out and with little expense to the department of education. This done, in a few years high school graduates will find themselves as well grounded in French as in arithmetic and chemistry. If we cannot have a practical French course, why have the subject on the curriculum?

Thanking you, Mr. Editor, for space,

I am,

Yours truly,

FRED J. PATTERSON

Edmundston, N. B., Mar. 14, 1922.

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(Signed) D. W. AMANSON.

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