

—At a meeting of the Committee of the Church Schoolmasters' Benevolent Institution, an application was received from a school manager for the purchase of an annuity (£20) for the schoolmistress of the parish, who was retiring in consequence of illness after forty-five years faithful service. It is gratifying to find the school managers to some extent endeavouring to do what ought to be done by the country which has received the benefit of such long and faithful work. This leads to the enquiry—how many of our school municipalities pay the pension premium for their teachers?

—According to a return published by the Education Department in Washington, instruction in physiology and hygiene, with special reference to the effects of stimulants and narcotics on the system, is made compulsory by statute in all schools, at some portion of the course, in twenty-five out of thirty-eight States, in all the territories, and in the district of Columbia. In Missouri this instruction is compulsory only when required by the patrons of the schools.

—Electricity is destined to cure all our ills. It has been found now to be a sovereign remedy for writers' cramp. An official in one of the principal courts in America who had many of his clerks incapacitated by this affection, has set up an electric battery in his office, and when the muscles of the hand become cramped through the long continued and steady use of the pen, contact with the battery is said to give instantaneous relief.

—The National Department of Superintendence at Richmond, U.S., has passed a resolution in favour of State legislation requiring, in all school buildings hereafter to be erected, provision for furnishing 1,500 cubic feet of air per hour for each pupil; and another resolution in favour of legislative enactments to make the kindergarten a part of the system of public instruction in all the states of the Union. We are pleased to read these resolutions, especially the first, which deals with a matter towards which, only too frequently, apathy is exhibited. If it were possible for sanitary inspectors to visit a number of our schoolrooms at the end of a long lesson, and to publish the results of the examination, the British parent might be roused to the same degree of interest as he can be made to feel, under judicious stimulation, for, say, the religious question.

—The huge telescope which was presented to the University of Chicago by the street car magnate, Charles T. Yerkes, will be erected at Lake Geneva, Wis. Work will be commenced on the observatory building as soon as the weather will permit.