

conversion of one time into another, the minutes and seconds being always the same.

The fighting in Santo Domingo, which placed General Morales at the head of affairs, has been followed by his election in due form as president of the little republic. His supremacy is, for the present, undisputed; and as he is a young and strong man there is fair prospect of a lasting peace.

The King of Italy has a son and heir, born September 15th, who will be known by the title of Prince of Piedmont.

The Interparliamentary Union, in session at St. Louis, passed a resolution calling upon the powers to intervene in the Russo-Japanese war. That such a resolution can have much effect is hardly to be expected.

The work of building a railway around the southern end of Lake Baikal is finished. This was a missing link in the great Siberian Railway, which is now complete, giving unbroken railway connection from European Russia to the Far East.

The control of the New Hebrides is rapidly passing into the hands of the French. More than half the European residents are now said to be French by birth or naturalization.

Col. Younghusband, the leader of the British expedition to Thibet, has succeeded in his mission and concluded a treaty which practically brings Thibet within the British sphere of influence. The flight of the Dalai Lama was regarded as an abdication, and the Tashi Lama, whose official rank was next in importance, was proclaimed by the Chinese authorities as his successor. The administration is carried on by a council of regency. The treaty, which awaits the approval of the Chinese government, binds the Thibetans to open three trading stations on the Indian frontier, and to pay an indemnity; and provides that without Britain's consent no territory shall be transferred to a foreign power, and no foreign power shall interfere in the internal affairs of Thibet, or construct roads, railways or telegraph lines in the country.

A movement has been made to raise a fund for the preservation of what remains of the old fortress of Louisburg, and to keep in memory the names of those who fell in the sieges of 1745 and 1758. It is under the patronage of His Majesty King Edward VII, and this is said to be the first occasion on which King Edward has become a patron of any colonial movement.

Thirty-four wells are now yielding petroleum in the New Brunswick oil fields; and oil has been found in paying quantities over as large an area as that of the Ontario oil fields. The present yield is in excess of that in Ontario, and it is claimed that the quality is better. It is proposed to build a refinery at Memramcook, to which the oil will be brought through pipe lines by gravitation.

A railway, something less than three hundred miles in length, will soon connect the Atlantic and Pacific coasts of Guatemala.

TEACHERS' CONVENTIONS.

TEACHERS' NORMAL INSTITUTE AT HAWKESBURY, C. B.

A gathering of teachers, which points to an important change in the conduct of local educational institutes, took place at Hawkesbury, C. B., during the week beginning September 26 and ending October 1. Over two hundred and fifty teachers assembled from the four counties of Cape Breton, and from the counties of Antigonish and Guysboro, for the purpose of taking part in a normal institute, organized for the purpose of demonstrating the best and most effective methods of teaching the subjects of the common school course. Teachers of known ability and skill, chosen from the schools of the six counties named above conducted lessons in the schools of Hawkesbury, while the teachers for whose benefit the demonstrations were given, occupied all the available space of the rooms listening intently and taking notes. Their earnest and eager attention, the closeness with which they watched the skill and method of each teacher and the effect upon the class, with the excellent order and system that prevailed, was in itself inspiring. It was no uncommon sight to see a class of children so absorbed in a lesson that they were entirely unconscious of the presence of spectators. The questions asked by the pupil teachers at the close of the lessons and the inspection of apparatus where used left no doubt of the genuineness of the interest.

In the afternoons the teachers assembled in the public hall to listen to papers and discussions on educational topics presented by specialists, or on subjects growing directly out of the work of the morning sessions. At least one public evening meeting was held, the hall being crowded to the doors, attesting the interest which the people of Hawkesbury and the visiting teachers felt in the discussion of educational questions, on which addresses were given by Attorney General Longley, Superintendent Mackay, Principal Soloan, Dr. McDonald and others.

The government of Nova Scotia showed its interest in the movement by a generous contribution toward the expenses of the C and D teachers who attended.

The vast amount of work and attention to detail required, threw a great responsibility on the organizers of the movement, Inspector Macdonald, the energetic and capable president, and on his co-workers, Inspectors MacKinnon and Phelan; but the impetus that will no doubt be given to educational work will be a sufficient reward to these gentlemen for their self-sacrificing efforts.

The REVIEW hopes to present to its readers in future numbers some of the special work of this excellently conducted institute.