

dislike the idea of proceeding against their neighbors. The corporate body of Trustees as well as the committee of Town Council in Pictou have been very remiss in this duty. If schools prove efficient in such cases, the teachers merit the credit, not the trustees.

During the year Trustees made 1,224 visits, the Inspector 316, Commissioners 49, Members of Legislature 14, Clergymen 190, Teachers 582, other persons 3,228.

As a rule schools prosper in proportion to the interest manifested.

*Terminal Examinations.*—18 schools closed at the end of winter term without an examination having been called; in 10 the teachers announced an examination, but no person attended; 124 held an examination. The aggregate attendance of visitors was 1,253. In summer, 13 closed without; 1 called for an examination, but nobody attended; 140 held an examination, and 1,692 visitors attended.

*Teachers' Examination.*—At the Pictou Station 69 candidates attended, and 92 at New Glasgow. Of the 161 examined 72 failed to obtain any class, the great majority were very young and could not have been permitted to teach had they succeeded. Seven young ladies competed for Grade B, 5 of whom succeeded. Miss Cavanagh made an average of 75.94, Miss Thompson 71.26, Miss Brownrigg 69.07, Miss McQueen 61.02 and Miss Mackay 58.42, all very respectable numbers for young ladies; of 11 young men that competed only 4 succeeded; the highest average made was 71.73. All honor to the ladies. There were 5 candidates for grade A, 4 were successful.

There is an anomaly in the Regulations of Council that requires attention. At present grade B is reckoned first class for males, and grade C for females; yet grade B and C of both sexes receive the same amount from Government. A grade C male teaching in a poor section receives the *one-third* additional, whereas a grade C female will not. If grade C is first class for females, what is the position of females holding B? By all means drop the grade B entirely, make the three grades or the 4, viz., Academic A, and B C D first, second and third, respectively, and place the sexes on an equality, both as regards qualifications and remuneration.

*Bonus.*—In winter 13 teachers obtained the bonus, and in summer 23, three of whom were young ladies.

*Amendments.*—All the recent amendments have given general, if not universal satisfaction. All are unquestionably in the right direction.

This County, especially the Country Sections, are very dissatisfied with the time fixed for the summer vacation. As reported formerly, the whole month of July is the best in the term for children to attend school. And Trustees are tempted to keep their schools open during the whole months; and that for two valid reasons, first, a much larger number of children can get the benefit of the school, as many can attend for two weeks longer than that can not attend at all afterwards; second, that they may draw a proportionately larger amount from the County Fund. Their doing so secures to them an advantage over sections that comply with the Regulation, by closing their schools at the time prescribed.

It is impossible to frame a law to satisfy all parties, or in this matter to bear justly upon all parts of the Province. I, in common with the Board of School Commissioners, would press the suggestion hitherto made; viz.: "Leave the determining of the time to the Commissioners and Inspectors of the several Counties." Another valid ground of complaint among teachers is, what they and others term "partial legislation." Why should the length of the school term be shorter in cities, towns and villages than in country sections? or in some villages and not in others? They, very properly, ask why do teachers in Halifax, Pictou, New Glasgow, &c., receive as much for 190, or 105 days service as we receive for 111 days? Their longer vacation should be sufficient