

The prescribing of new books is one of such importance to the country that the most extraordinary care has to be taken to make sure that the ultimate advantages of a change will more than compensate the people for the temporary loss or annoyance always involved in making a change. But change there must be. It is the essential condition of all growth: and we ought under such circumstances to be always prepared for it.

Inspectors and teachers are reminded:

1. That the Course of Study for Common Schools encourages an economical expenditure for text books by providing a system of oral instruction for junior classes. Too many teachers try to satisfy themselves in respect to their more youthful pupils by placing in their hands text-books not needed in any case, and worse than useless when unaccompanied by proper oral exposition. A text-book should not be required for a child until he is prepared to use it intelligently.

2. That the regulation which makes it illegal and improper for a Teacher to introduce unauthorized texts, by no means hinders him from giving his pupils the benefit of other treatises to whose explanations he may attach importance. The progressive teacher will always have such aids within reach, and will so use them as to impart variety and interest to his instructions.

LIST OF TEXT BOOKS PRESCRIBED FOR USE IN SCHOOLS, WITH NAMES OF PUBLISHERS.

COMMON SCHOOLS.

*Royal Readers, Nos. 1 to 5. (Thomas Nelson & Sons, Edinburgh and London). French-English Editions, useful in French sections.

Maritime Readers. (Collins, Sons & Co., Glasgow and London).

Spelling Book superseded—*English Edition*. (Sullivan Bros.)

Health Readers, Nos. 1 and 2. (T. C. Allen & Co., Halifax).

Introductory Science Primer—Huxley; Chemistry Primer—Roscoe. (Macmillan & Co., London).

Calkin's Elementary Geography. (A. & W. Mackinlay, Halifax).

Calkin's History of British America. (A. & W. Mackinlay, Halifax).

Brief History of England. (Thomas Nelson & Sons, Edinburgh).

*English Grammar. (A. & W. Mackinlay, Halifax).

Elementary Arithmetic, Kirkland & Scott. (Gage & Co., Toronto).

Writing Copy Books—*Vertical*; as in Jackson's New Style—twelve Nos. (Sampson Low, Marston & Co., London). *Sloping*; Royal, and Beattie's.

[The Council does not think it necessary to prescribe a single series of Copy Books, but only to require that one series shall be used exclusively in each School.]

*Drawing Books: Langdon S. Thompson's (D. C. Heath & Co., Boston). Cards: American Drawing Cards. (Prang, Boston).

*Those marked with an asterisk are also used in High School grades.

HIGH SCHOOLS (ONLY).

Martin's "The Human Body and the effects of Narcotics," (Henry Holt & Co., New York.)

Calkin's Geography of the World (Mackinlay).

Outlines of British History (Thos. Nelson & Sons, Edin.)

Hall & Stevens' Euclid.

Hall & Knight's *Elementary Algebra*.

NOTE.—The character of the High School work in its various subjects is further indicated by the books referred to in the "High School Curriculum."

MAPS.

The Council of Public Instruction has not deemed it necessary to prescribe maps of particular authorship for use in the Public Schools. In such well-known series as those of Philips, Johnson, Mackinlay, Trustees will find an abundance of excellent material from which to select. The special character of Church's Mineral Map will tend to popularize it in many parts of the Province, while it fully answers the purposes of a general map. The minimum of Map outfit in every school should comprise the Hemispheres, Europe, North America, the Dominion of Canada, and Nova Scotia (or the Atlantic Provinces). No High School is equipped for classical work without at least the *Orbis Romanus* and the *Orbis notus Veteribus*.

[A Geological map of Nova Scotia is also being prepared by Mr. Church.]