

which the intellectual level is highest and in which the ordinary school work is honestly and regularly done.

Though the highest part of education escapes the tests of the examiner, yet that part of education which is the direct instruction given by the teacher and is capable of being tested by the examiner, though not the highest, is no inconsiderable element in the education of a child.

It is pleasant for a teacher to be in a position to say to, or to report to, a parent that his child is doing well, and it is gratifying to a parent to receive such a report from the teacher of his child. But statements such as these are too general, too vague. The parent is entitled to receive a definite statement of the standing of his daughter or son, of the exact standing of his child in the subject in the prescribed programme of studies, as these are set forth in the four forms of that programme.

This examination should not be competitive; no pecuniary value should be attached to it; it should be purely educational; it should admit to Fifth classes in the Public School; it should admit to High Schools; every employer of child labor should ask for it; and generally speaking, every pupil of average ability should be able to obtain it not later than when he is twelve years old.

All this means business. It means that the people, the rate-payers, have the right to ask, and should insist on asking that the Education Department see to it that the money contributed year in and year out is not wasted, that the parents and children are receiving full value for the money so liberally placed at the disposal of school authorities.

The above plan implies thoroughness; it will call for more mature instructors; it involves that sym-

pathy, though existent, must be held in the back-ground. The Boards for the examination of pupils for admission to High Schools already in operation can take charge of this examination for the Merit Certificate, which can be used for the certificate which is now given for Entrance. The great waste in school life in Ontario occurs between the end of the Public School course and the beginning of the High School course. Every facility should be given and inducement offered to pupils at this critical point in their life to continue their schooling. It is of immense importance to themselves and their country.

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Queen's University, Kingston, was founded by the Presbyterians in Upper and Lower Canada in 1841. Victoria University (now Toronto, formerly at Cobourg), was established by the Methodists, also in 1841. The University of King's College, Toronto, was begun in 1843, under the auspices of the Church of England, and is now, after several changes in its charter, the University of Toronto. This was the only institution which had an endowment from the State. Trinity University, Toronto, was established by the members and adherents of the Church of England in 1852; McMaster University, Toronto, by the Baptists in 1887.

The Roman Catholics in Canada have a large number of Colleges and more than one University under their control, and maintained by them from their own resources. Fools our fathers, we grow wise: *ex nihilo nihil fit*.

We were led into this train of thought by the position of the University question in Ontario at present and the keen discussion which is being carried on about it in administrative circles. Upon reading