

St. John physicians. Dr. G. G. Melvin, the recently appointed medical inspector of the municipality said that children were compelled by law to attend school, and the law should therefore throw around the child all the safeguards from disease that were possible. Dr. Walker gave it as his opinion that children should not be sent to school until they had reached the age of eight years.

Dr. A. H. MacKay, Superintendent of Education for Nova Scotia met with a hearty reception and after passing a tribute to the worth of Dr. Inch and congratulating the province on the elevation of Dr. Carter, he made a moderate plea for a four years' course for high schools. He said New Brunswick and Nova Scotia had like educational interests and a closer sympathy existed between them than among the other provinces.

He traced the development of the high school in America and contrasted our schools with those in Germany. Owing to the greater simplicity of their spelling, mathematics and classics, the European pupils get a year ahead of ours and their grade XI. practically corresponds to our grade XII. In Nova Scotia, Latin, Geometry, Algebra (except elementary) are first taken up in the high school. This gives more time for nature work, practical arithmetic, composition and English in the common school. It also offers greater opportunities to specialize in the high school, the courses of which should be varied to suit the needs of individual communities.

The high school course should include a history of the world and general geography with especial reference to Canada in both subjects. In the earlier grades physical subjects, geography, agriculture might be used to lead up to physiography and geology. Manual training and drawing are important and the speaker said a teacher especially should be able to illustrate her verbal teaching with drawings. The teaching of the sciences is important both to the individual and to the country at large. Physics and chemistry should be studied in the laboratory. Physiology and hygiene are very important and in these New Brunswick is ahead of Nova Scotia. In the country schools especially no subject could be more important than agriculture. Music, drawing and physical culture should not be neglected in high school work.

Latin and Greek should be studied for the training

they afford. Botany and zoology form an important part of high school work. War between man and man has, we hope, ceased, but war between man and insects must be constantly waged. The laws of health should be studied. Teachers should know as much as doctors. A report on each pupil's health should be made at least once a year.

Dr. MacKay's thoughtful address was discussed by Dr. H. S. Bridges, Principal Oulton, Principal Myles and Superintendent Carter. The weight of opinion was against extending the course.

Capt. A. H. Borden, of Halifax, N. S., director of physical and military training for the Maritime Provinces, gave a fine address on this subject. His soldierly bearing, incisive speech as if conducting a parade penetrated to every corner of the audience-room, whose acoustic properties are none of the best. Health, he declared, is the most important thing in the life of every man, woman and child. It would be a sad mistake if we should pay a great deal of attention to intellectual training, and allow boys and girls to go out from school physically unfit, when their very happiness depends upon their health.

Dr. John Brittain of the Macdonald College, gave an address on Agricultural Education. On taking the platform Dr. Brittain was accorded a warm reception from the teachers, many of whom had pleasant recollections of him as a teacher at the Normal school. He said that much had been done in the past few decades to improve agricultural education, but much remains to be done. Reading, writing and arithmetic are useful and necessary arts, and we must insist that they shall be taught well in all our schools; but they are not the fundamentals of a good education. There are thousands of unhappy and of unthrifty homes where both parents can read, write and cipher. These arts have no more direct bearing on the quality of the life than has a good eyesight or a keen scent. To be desired above all other things are healthful, thrifty, happy homes — homes in which the old and the young are in harmony with each other and with a beautiful and inspiring environment. Let us then cultivate in our schools those tempers, tastes and abilities which are essential to the realization of such homes. To treat others with courtesy, forbearance and justice, to be honorable and truthful from principle — to strive after purity of thought and of word, to revere God and