

salaries of County Inspectors. Cities are not thus aided by the Government, although they have heavier educational burdens than counties in proportion to their population. Simple justice would lead to the placing of cities on the same footing as counties in this respect.

3. *Expenses of Entrance Examinations.* These have to be borne in cities and towns by the Public School Boards. The High Schools receive all the benefits of these examinations, and should properly pay the expenses connected with them. In many cases the candidates do not come from the Public Schools at all. Even if they did, however, the schools they are entering should certainly be charged with the expenses of the examination. High School Boards might as justly be expected to pay the expenses connected with the Matriculation Examinations of Universities, as Public Schools those of the Entrance Examinations to High Schools.

4. *Grant to Superannuated Teachers.* As all teachers who teach for more than three years must in future be trained at a Normal School, it would seem to be just that the clause giving them an extra allowance of one dollar per annum for each year they have taught should be removed from the statute book.

EXPENSES OF THE EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT.

An effort is being made by certain parties to fix upon the Honorable Mr. Crooks the responsibility for the increase in the expenses connected with education in Ontario during the past seven years. The cost of the various departments, inspection, examination, &c., are given for 1871 and contrasted with the corresponding items for 1878. The expenditure has, of course, been very largely increased under several heads; but whether the increase be a matter for praise or censure, it is manifest that Mr. Crooks is not entitled to receive it. The increases result, in nearly every particular, from the passage of the school law of 1871. This was passed by the Government of Hon. J. Sandfield Macdonald. Hon. M. C. Cameron introduced the bill, which was prepared by Dr. Ryerson, who is accorded all the credit for the many excellent features which it contained. If any blame could be attached to any one, it could not certainly be to Mr. Crooks.

When it is charged that the examination of teachers costs the Province more than formerly, those who make the charge forget that the Educational Department has assumed the full examination of all Second Class Candidates since the first date named. This work was done by County Boards, and was paid for by the County Councils. It is now paid for by the Provincial Treasurer; hence the apparent increase in the cost of examining teachers. The fact is, it costs less than formerly, and the municipalities are relieved of the burden of paying for the examination of teachers, whose certificates when they received them were provincial, and who frequently never taught a day in the county whose treasurer paid the examiners' fees. This is, of course, merely the financial aspect of the case. The numerous advantages of the new system over the old are such that the country would have been quite willing to pay for the changes, if any additional expenses had been necessary.

To contrast the cost of the new and the old systems of inspection is misleading. The most important feature of the Act of 1871 was that which provided for the thorough and efficient inspection of schools by competent, trained County Inspectors. Every man of intelligence admits the superiority of the new system. The only question that can possibly be raised in relation to its expensiveness is, whether the Inspectors are paid too well for their services. Not many would hazard an answer in the affirmative. The Inspectors' positions are the highest in the teachers' profession. It cannot be too much for the eminently successful teacher to hope that when he has reached the highest place open to him he should find himself in receipt of an income less than that which a man equally eminent in business would pay his book-keeper.

However, if the opponents of Mr. Crooks wish to hold him responsible for any unnecessary increase in the expenses of his department, they should, in all fairness, contrast the items of 1878, not with those of 1871, but of 1875, the year in which Mr. Crooks became Minister of Education.

COUNTY MODEL SCHOOL EXAMINATIONS.

The County Model School system has now been in force for two years, and the satisfactory results that have attended its operation have justly earned for it the title of "the lost link in our Public School education." Certainly no cheaper or more efficient method of training teachers of the lower grade could have been devised. The professional examination is partly oral and partly written, and embraces, (1) Aptitude to teach, (2) Reading and Elocution, (3) Mental Arithmetic, (4) Hygiene, (5) Education, (6) School Law. The "aptitude to teach" of each teacher in training is entered in the Training Register from day to day by the Head Master, and at the close of the session forms the basis for marking the certificates under this head, and also for grading the students as first, second, third, fourth, fifth, or sixth rate teachers. The examination in Mental Arithmetic, Reading, and Elocution is oral. Intending candidates for Third Class certificates at the next midsummer non-professional examinations will doubtless be glad to learn something of the nature of the professional examination which will follow it at the close of their training in the Model School. Below are given, out of a vast number of sets of examination papers, those set for the December examination in the Hamilton Model School, and upon which forty-one out of forty-two candidates passed with honors and received certificates. The result must be highly gratifying to the efficient Principal, Mr. G. W. Johnson.

MENTAL ARITHMETIC.—Time, 5 minutes.

- (1) I paid \$60 per acre, and $\frac{3}{4}$ of what I paid was $\frac{1}{4}$ of what B paid; what did B's 75 acres cost him?
- (2) John paid 50 cents for a knife, which was $\frac{1}{4}$ of two times the cost of his pencil; find the cost of his pencil.
- (3) What will 3 cwt. 2 qrs. 10 lbs. of tea cost at \$20 per quarter?