

Phonics Made Easy (Sinclair)

Macmillan & Co., 50c.

This book is intended for young teachers and mothers, and sets forth the work to be done from day to day. It is needlessly specific. It will make of reading a task when it should be a pleasure. There is no reason why at any time pupils should be asked to read drivel or stilted forms of expression. It is always an error to sacrifice sense to sound and this the author does constantly. Further than that, one would expect some degree of accuracy in presenting phonics. **Mat, mast, mamma** should not come in one lesson as if the vowel sound were the same. Phonics should be an aid to correct enunciation not a hindrance. There are, however, good things in this book, for example, the lesson sequence page x, the general directions for making the "sounds," and the very necessary section on letter combinations. The book is quite as

good as that by Haliburton, and for one who has had no instruction in phonics quite suggestive.

Ontario High School Chemistry

Macmillan & Co. of Canada, 50c.

It is a relief to read a book like this, so different in its matter and methods from the old-time pioneers in chemistry. There seems to be no doubt that with such a book in their possession students would be in a position to understand and follow the instruction of an interested teacher. Particularly helpful are the chapters on the Laws of Combustion and Equations, Valency and Nomenclature. The stumbling blocks have been for the most part removed. It should be possible for students to read with ease and intelligence the Equations of Chemistry just as they read Algebraic Equations. The book is a very suitable introduction to a very profound study.

School News

Teachers' Convention

Teachers of Inspector Van Dusen's division will please note that their first convention will meet at Arborg School, on Friday, October 5th, 1917.

An interesting programme and good social time will be arranged. Let teachers make an effort to attend as this is partly an organization meeting. Remember the date—first Friday in October.

School Notes

The staff of the Balmoral Consolidated School No. 170 for 1917 is—C. E. Law principal, Grades 9, 10, 11 and Matriculation Latin; J. Stewart (late of Baldur), 6, 7, 8 and Matriculation

French; Miss Bell (late of Stonewall), 3, 4, 5; Miss Hazel King (Winnipeg), 1 and 2.

The new principal of Stockholm Consolidated School is Mr. Dunlop (late of Hilten), and his staff consists of the following ladies: Misses Reid, Metcalfe and E. Corbett.

The Best in Moving Pictures

Now that the Motion Picture has come to stay, and has a part in the lives of most people, both young and old, it is surely within the province of an educational journal to assist in the selection of the best, in this, the world of entertainment, as well as in the world of culture. It is no more im-