

frequently sent back for a whole year's unprofitable review of work they had already been over, and teachers were under too strong a temptation to cram for the examinations, to the detriment of rational teaching. Under the new rules the pupils of each school are to be at all times distributed with approximate equality among the Divisions. Teachers and pupils are relieved in large measure from the baneful dread of final examinations, and generally the classification is effected on the principle that the school exists for the pupils and not the pupils for the school.

In March, Ben Williams, Esq., who had for many years discharged the duties of the Secretaryship in a very able and satisfactory manner, resigned that office. In order to centralize the business of the Board and effect a small saving in expense the City Superintendent was appointed Secretary, with Miss M. A. Macdonald Assistant Secretary. This arrangement is no doubt advantageous to the conduct of the Secretarial work; but I am not entirely sure that it may not involve a sacrifice of the time and energy that should be given to the proper work of the Superintendency—sufficient to more than balance the account.

New High School Building.

It has been the ambition of the Board that the Victoria Schools should gain a reputation, not only as the best in British Columbia, but as the equal of any in Canada. The steady improvement achieved during the past two or three years brings that goal within measurable distance. There is, however, one serious obstacle in the way of its complete attainment; it is this, no city can make any pretensions to excellence in its system of schools if ample provision is not made for Secondary as well as for Elementary