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## \* Editorial Notes. \*

THE editor of the English Department requests us to say that the article on Grammar problems, intended for this number, has of necessity been held over for next issue.

MANY of our readers will read with interest Mr. Seath's able paper on "University Matriculation in Ontario," which we give in full in this number. It is somewhat lengthy, but the connection of thought and argument is such that it seemed necessary to present it as a whole. We have, therefore, curtailed some of our usual departments in order to give it in full.

THE Educational Association has done well to retain the services of Mr. R. W. Doan, who has been for so many years the able and efficient Secretary of the Ontario Teachers' Association, as Secretary of the enlarged organization. It will be greatly to the advantage of the latter to have an officer of so much ability and experience to manage its affairs during the first year of its operation under the new conditions.

"QUESTION DRAWER" is crowded out of this number. In the Drawer in last number we said in answer to a question, "We presume that the High School Book-keeping covers all the ground required for a Commercial Specialist's Certificate." We now learn, on undoubted authority, that this presumption is wrong. Far more than is given in the H. S. Book-keeping will be required. The new circular is not yet out, but we hope to be able to give definite information in next number.

WE are informed that the success which has attended the inauguration of the On-

tario College of Oratory has been most encouraging to the faculty. The second year will open with a summer session of six weeks at Grimsby Park, as advertised in another column. In addition to the regular faculty a number of prominent specialists will participate in the work. Already a large number of applications have been received from all over the continent and a successful time is thought to be as good as assured.

AN explanation and an apology are due to our readers who may be interested in Mr. A. C. Mounteer's series of articles on Physical Culture, on the one hand, and to Mr. Mounteer himself, on the other, for the non-appearance of his closing article in this number. The fact is that the "copy" came to hand too late for last number, and was laid aside with an accumulation of "held-over" MS. and, owing to pressure of matter for this issue, was overlooked until too late. It will appear in the JOURNAL for May 15th.

AN important modification of the examination in Botany comes into effect next July. It is now prescribed that the presiding examiner shall be competent to select the plant for the Primary, and that two plants shall be submitted to the candidate at the Primary and the Senior Leaving examinations, one for description and identification, and one for identification alone. In the latter case the candidate will be allowed the use of his text-book, and we have been informed by the examiners that the plant submitted will not necessarily belong to one of the orders prescribed for the Primary. The object of this change is to enable the examiner to determine with greater accuracy than heretofore to what extent the candidate has benefited from his Botanical studies. In Zoology will also be submitted a "slide" for microscopic examination, which will embrace chiefly the morphological characteristics of the section.

ELSEWHERE in this number will be found a sketch of "The Bad Boy," drawn by a clever writer in the *Christian World*, who evidently knows his subject. The scene is located in an English Sunday-school and amidst its surroundings, but with such modifications and adaptations as the teacher can easily make, the portrait will, in many of its features, do well for the "bad boy," in many a Canadian public school. Do you not recognize him? If you do, note care-

fully the suggestions in the last paragraph of the article. Many a "bad boy" of local notoriety, has in him elements and possibilities of good which in the hands of one who knows how to lay hold of him and develop them, may make him some day a power for good in the community. The teacher who understands the boy nature, knows that there are bad boys and bad boys, and makes a careful study of each individual case before assigning it to the total depravity class.

REFERRING, in his address before the Ontario Educational Association, on Wednesday evening, to the relations between the Education Department and the great body of educators in the Province, the Minister of Education said well that the teachers should guide the Department and not the Department the teachers. Theoretically there can be no doubt of the soundness of this principle. But, practically, do the present organization and methods of the Education Department recognize this principle as it ought? Should there not be some provision in the system whereby the educators of the Province could express and press their views on important questions of policy. In other words should there not be some Central Committee, or other body actually representative of the teachers, authorized to give official expression, if not actual effect, to their views on all matters which primarily involve the application of educational principles in the Public school system?

MR. S. B. SINCLAIR, B.A., who was elected to the Presidency of the Ontario Educational Association, is no doubt already well known to many of our readers, personally, or through the medium of his educational writings in our columns and elsewhere. He is an alumnus of Victoria University, and at his graduation took honors in Mathematics and Mental Philosophy. He has for some years been an Associate Examiner in the latter subject. Mr. Sinclair has not only passed through the various stages of the professional training prescribed by the Education Department of this Province, but has had the great advantage of having personally studied the methods pursued in a number of the best schools in the United States and Europe. He is an enthusiastic advocate of progressive methods, and has, as above intimated, written somewhat freely on educational subjects. We congratulate him on the mark of esteem and confidence bestowed upon him by his professional brethren in electing him to this high office, and we have no doubt that by his zeal and efficiency he will amply justify their choice.