

TEACHERS' CONVENTIONS.**CAPE BRETON INSTITUTE.**

The teachers' institute of Cape Breton met at Sydney, September 3rd and 4th, Inspector Macneil, president, in the chair. There were present over one hundred teachers, including representatives from all the principal schools throughout the county, the Chief Superintendent of Education Dr. MacKay, President Forrest and Professor E. MacKay of Dalhousie College. Inspector McKinnon read a well prepared paper in favor of the consolidation of schools in the country districts, which was well received and unanimously endorsed by the institute. The question of increased salaries for teachers was discussed, and ways and means of attaining the desired result considered. Mr. Isaac Crombie read an interesting paper on the superannuation of teachers, which he favored, as did most of those who took part in the discussion, including the Superintendent of Education, Messrs. Creelman, Gillis, Calder, Layton, Boyd, McKeigan and Doucette. A resolution was passed appointing a committee to draft a resolution in favor of superannuation, to be presented to the Superintendent of Education and to the Provincial Educational Association.

ST. JOHN COUNTY INSTITUTE.

The annual meeting of the St. John, N. B., County Teachers' Institute was held in the hall of the High School, St. John, on Thursday and Friday, September 4th and 5th; nearly 200 teachers enrolled. Dr. H. S. Bridges presided and delivered a scholarly address on Higher Education and Practical Life. The Misses Barlow and Gregg read papers on primary work, and Miss Iddles one on Advanced Reading. These papers were well received, and were discussed very fully by members of the institute.

When the institute assembled on Friday morning Inspector W. S. Carter read an excellent paper,—Co-operation Among Teachers. He advocated compulsory education, vigorous measures to enforce the law against cigarette venders, and urged the formation of a teachers' association. Principal Joseph Harrington read a practical and interesting paper—Geography Teaching and Map Drawing. Both papers called forth a general discussion, and the institute, by a unanimous vote, endorsed the recommendations of Mr. Carter, especially that relating to the venders of cigarettes.

The following officers were elected for the ensuing year: Principal M. D. Brown, President; J. Frank Owen, Vice-president; Miss J. Rowan, Secretary-treasurer; W. H. Parlee and Miss M. E. Knowlton, additional members of council.

CURRENT EVENTS.

There are 600,000 Jews living in New York city, a number about equal to the whole population of the three Atlantic Provinces of the Dominion.

Three hundred Welsh settlers from Patagonia are now comfortably settled at Saltcoats, in the district of Alberta, and are well pleased with the Canadian soil and climate, and with other conditions as they find them. Others will probably follow, not only from Patagonia, but also from the United States and from Wales.

When the Canadian arch in London was dismantled, after the coronation ceremonies, the sheaves of grain, as they fell into the street, were caught and divided among hundreds of people, who carried away small bunches for souvenirs.

Nearly five hundred immigrants from Iceland settled in this country last year, and it is expected that even a larger number will follow next spring.

Alarming conditions prevail in the Texas oil fields. The gas is so dangerous to the lives of the operators that more than a hundred are overcome daily, and danger of total blindness is feared as a result of constant exposure.

Another terrible eruption of Mont Pelee, Martinique, occurred on the 30th of August, by which over a thousand people lost their lives. The governor is arranging to take all the people away from the northern part of the island, which is no longer habitable.

The Dutch and Achinese are still fighting in Sumatra. The war began nearly thirty years ago.

The new dock now building at Rotterdam will be the largest in the world.

At the Isthmus of Panama there is still fighting between the Colombian government forces and the Liberals, with very uncertain results. There, as in Venezuela, election by bullet takes the place of election by ballot, and foreigners, as well as natives, suffer from the disturbances which almost invariably attend a change of government.

The revolution in Hayti is spreading, and business is practically suspended everywhere throughout the country.

It is stated, upon apparently good authority, that the officials of the church of Rome have not, as reported, definitely refused to canonize Joan of Arc; but have merely deferred the matter for further investigation. Press despatches from Europe, it seems, are as unreliable in church matters as they are in matters affecting British interests, in which they are notoriously free from a strict adherence to facts.

The Sultan of Turkey has repealed the exceptional measures taken against the Armenians, the Armenian patriarch having guaranteed that no outbreak would follow.