

of 15,000 men to act as a corps of observation on his own borders, and the United States Senate on the other declaring that any invasion of Costa Rica or Nicaragua will be regarded as a hostile interference with the United States, under the pending treaty with the latter State, the ambitious President will be likely to think twice before proceeding to carry out his too ambitious project.

The anomalous position in which Canada stands in reference to the law of copyright, is so humiliating, and so detrimental to the publishing business that one would have expected to see the political parties a unit in seeking relief. As the law now stands it is an effectual bar to the republication of any English copyrighted work in Canada. By the provision that American reprints may be admitted on payment of duty, and, in cases where the American publisher has made no arrangement with the author, payment of an author's royalty of 12½ per cent., the whole business is thrown into the hands of the American. *Justice, of course, demands that the rights of the British author should be protected, but it would surely be possible to do this, at least as well as it is now done, and yet give Canadian publishers a chance in their own market. The case demands an International copyright law for its complete adjustment, but failing that, the Canadian Parliament has surely a right to legislate on this as other Canadian matters, and should respectfully claim this right.*

The School.

Dr. Hodgins, Deputy Minister of Education, has received letters from Hon. M. A. Newell, L.L.D., Chairman of the Committee of Arrangements of the International Congress of Educators, and Gen. Eaton, complimenting him on the service rendered the Congress by his papers, and thanking him for the interest he has taken in the enterprise. These gentlemen intimate that the various papers furnished by Ontario contributors will be published and copies forwarded in any desired number. The Ontario papers will be printed under Dr. Hodgins' supervision.

We notice references in school book advertisements to the so-called "Standard Authorities" in pronunciation, viz.: "The Imperial Dictionary" and "Stormonth." These are good dictionaries, no doubt, but what "Forty Immortals," or other Academic authority in Ontario has the monopoly of Canadian learning and the right to determine our standard of pronunciation? We fancy the teachers of Ontario are intelligent enough to know that there is no standard of English pronunciation but good usage, that such usage varies in different localities and circles thus in many instances allowing a considerable latitude for choice, and that within the limits thus indicated any attempt to set up a standard authority savours of bureaucracy not of scholarship.

From the announcements made in our advertising and educational news columns it will be seen that free classes in Drawing are to be conducted again the coming summer in the Art

Department of the Toronto Normal School. It will be remembered that about 120 teachers of High Schools, County Model Schools and Public Schools availed themselves of the privileges of these classes last year and we are glad to find that many of those who got certificates are now employed as Teachers of Drawing in Mechanics' Institutes, thus augmenting their salaries. We are informed that more Institutes applied for teachers than could be supplied, but this will probably be remedied next winter. Application should be made to the Education Department without delay as only a limited number can be accommodated. Students will be received in the order of their application and we find several have already sent in their application.

We always take up the college journals with a degree of interest, and, as a rule, find few, if any, of them better worth reading than *Queen's College Journal*. We are therefore, particularly sorry to learn, from the March number, that not only has *Queen's* not outgrown the silly, unfair and, we had hoped, antiquated custom of "tussels" between classes, but that the editors constitute themselves apologists and upholders of the arrogant assumptions of seniors. It is time these old world traditions were banished from this land of liberty and equality. It certainly sounds like an anachronism when an intelligent college paper talks about the right of the seniors to "run the college," subdue "conceited and presumptuous fresh men, &c." Those old world survivals cannot long flourish in Canadian air. They will have to go the way of "fagging" and "hazing" and other college abominations of past days.

The new franchise bill passed with so much unanimity by the Ontario Legislature gives the province virtual citizen or manhood suffrage. The reduction of the wage-earner's qualification to a minimum income of \$250 a year practically enfranchises every industrious citizen. What effect the change may have upon the strength of parties in the House it is impossible to predict, nor is it a matter of much importance. Its effect upon the conduct of the electors and the character of the next House and its legislation is a question of much greater moment. There can be no doubt that, while admitting some of the unworthy, the extension will be the means of giving a vote to a large number of those who are best qualified by intelligence and integrity to use it. To take as an illustration one of many classes, the large body of teachers who will be added to the electorate ought to exert a powerful and healthful influence upon the political future of the province. The workings of the change will be closely studied by other provinces.

The Corporation of Harvard University have refused the request of the students to have attendance at morning prayers made voluntary. The question raised was a difficult one, but the decision reached is somewhat hard to reconcile with strict *logical consistency in religious voluntarism*. The decision is approved by the *Christian Union*, a journal remarkable generally for having the courage of its logic, on the ground that the granting of the petition would have had led as in other in-