

Both of these appointments were to be expected; but they are none the less such as the gentlemen themselves and the Province at large may be congratulated on. Dr. Ryerson, too, though absolved from the regular labours and responsibilities of the Department, does not altogether withdraw his assistance, but finds an arm-chair in the old Council Room, which has been placed at his disposal, and his valuable advice and information will, we hope, be long cheerfully tendered and gratefully received. An abrupt severance of the ties which so long connected the worthy Chief Superintendent with the administration of the office would have been a serious calamity.—*Mail*.

2. ELORA SCHOOL CONVENTION.

A convention of teachers was held at Elora on Friday and Saturday, March 3rd and 4th. There were about 150 teachers present from all parts of the county. On Friday evening addresses were delivered in the drill shed by Hon. Adam Crooks and Prof. Goldwin Smith. The following are the principal resolutions passed at the convention. In general, these resolutions were unanimously carried:

1. Moved and seconded that, in the opinion of this convention, County and City Boards of Examiners be not allowed to renew third-class certificates, or to grant permits or interim certificates under any condition whatever, and that third-class certificates be made Provincial for three years, also that an elementary knowledge of book-keeping and human physiology be required and that British or Canadian History be substituted for general history. Carried.

2. Moved and seconded that, in the opinion of this meeting, Botany, Natural History, Agricultural Chemistry, Domestic Economy, Civil Government, Book-keeping, and Christian Morals, as taught from a text-book, be made optional subjects. Unanimously carried.

3. Moved and seconded that, instead of having quarterly examinations as heretofore, we have two examinations during the year, time not specified. Carried.

4. Moved and seconded that, in the opinion of this meeting, the vacations of the Public Schools should be of the same length as those of the High Schools, and also at the same time. Carried.

5. Moved and seconded that, in consideration of the frequent changes which teachers are compelled to make in rural sections, and the inferior class of houses which they generally have to occupy, it would be a great advantage to married teachers, and tend to keep them in the profession if such a change were made in the school year as would enable them to terminate their annual engagements with the summer holidays; and that such a change would also benefit the Public Schools, since a teacher can gain control of a school much more easily, when the attendance is small, as it invariably is after the summer vacation; also that large scholars, who attend school during the winter season only would have the advantage of the same teacher during the whole session; and farther we hold, that it would facilitate the attendance of teachers at the Normal Schools, and be more convenient for teachers who obtain certificates in July.

The motion was not voted upon by the meeting, and discussion upon the matter was postponed until the next meeting of the Association, to be held in May.

3. COLLECTION OF SUPERANNUATED TEACHERS' MONEY.

As the law makes Public School Inspectors responsible for the collection and transmission of the Superannuated Teachers' money to the Education Department, they should take steps to have it promptly placed in their hands by the local treasurers for this purpose. The 95th Section of the School Act declares that:—

Under this Section of the Act it is clear that every teacher holding a Public School certificate is required to pay into the fund at least four dollars annually in half yearly sums. In other words—so long as he holds a certificate, and whether he teaches for a longer, or shorter period in the year—say a month, six months, or the entire year—he becomes indebted to the fund at least four dollars for that year, payable half yearly.

As to the duty of the Inspector, the law prescribes that he shall:—

Thus it is clear that it is the duty of the Inspector, at any time before giving a cheque "to any qualified Teacher" (male or female), to deduct from the money due the Section for the time during which a male Teacher may have taught in it, the

sum payable by that male Teacher who may have taught in the section during the period for which the money is payable. It matters not whether the male Teacher concerned was previously paid in full by the Trustees or not, the money must be deducted by the Inspector.

The following examples may be given in illustration:—

1. In a section in which two (or more) male teachers are employed throughout the year, or only for part of a half-year, the sum of two dollars should be deducted for each male teacher, from the sum apportioned to the section for the half-year during which such male teachers were employed, although the Trustees' order may be made out in favour of their successors: male or female.

2. In a section in which a female teacher is engaged during either half-year, and is succeeded by a male teacher in whose favour the Trustees' order, for such preceding half-year, is made out in advance for his term, no deduction is to be made, as no payment is due to the male teacher in that section, for the half-year for which the apportionment is made; and consequently no payment to the fund is due by such male teacher.

In rural sections then, the rule to be observed is, to deduct the amount due from the apportionment made to the section, only when one or more male teachers were employed, and credit it to the male teacher or teachers employed during the half-year for which the apportionment was actually made.

The municipal treasurer is, by the 102nd Section, required to:—

"Pay over to the order of the Inspector the amount of money which said Inspector has deducted, as required by law . . . or which is due and payable by any male Teacher to the fund."

In order to insure punctuality and regularity in collecting and transmitting this superannuation money to the Department the simplest and most satisfactory plan for the Inspector to adopt is:—to make out at the end of each half year, a list of the male Teachers under his jurisdiction, with the names of the Sections or School Divisions in which they may have taught in, whether or not such Teachers may have taught one, two, or six months of such half year. The Inspector should then send this list with his order to the municipal school treasurer for the whole amount of superannuation money due by the Teachers mentioned on that list. Should the Treasurer neglect or refuse to comply promptly with the request or order of the Inspector for this money, he should without delay take measures to compel the Treasurer to comply with the provisions of the law on the subject.

As in cities, towns and villages the law makes it the duty of the Inspector to sign all cheques payable to Teachers for salaries, he has it in his power to ensure a prompt transmission, through the local agency of the Bank of Commerce or Bank of Montreal, of the superannuation money due and payable to the Department at the end of each half year.

4. THE OTTAWA NORMAL SCHOOL.

SOME ACCOUNT OF THE WORK.

Canada should be proud of her educational institutions, for the reason that teaching pupils is one branch of study, and teaching teachers is another. The latter is an art which, on the other side of the Atlantic, almost appears to have been lost sight of. At least so far as England is concerned, it is almost safe to say that such is the case. The "Training Schools" of the Dominion of Canada, or "Normal" Schools, as they are more properly termed, are infinitely superior in their curriculum to those in the old country. When the Hon. Mr. McKellar selected Ottawa as a central position for a Normal School, he did well, for he could not have found a site better suited for the purpose. Between the Provinces of Quebec and Ontario, *in medias res*, if the term may be applied, its situation could not have been better selected. The building has already been described in the *Times*.

THE OBJECT OF THE SCHOOLS.

"The sole object of these Schools is to prepare students for the profession of Teacher; and to this end, students have, in addition to the lectures, the advantage of practice in the Model School under