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Editorial Notes.

WILL Inspectors have the kindness to forward us the programmes of conventions to be held in their inspectorates, at as early a date as possible? We desire, in each issue, to give a list of conventions to be held within the following fortnight.

MR. JAMES H. CANFIELD, Secretary of the National Educational Association of the United States, wishes us to announce that, in order to ensure receiving a copy of the *Journal of Proceedings* of the session of the National Educational Association just held at Chicago, members should notify him at once, by postal card, of their present addresses, and of their desire to secure the volume. His address is Lawrence, Kansas.

WE had hoped that the senseless practice of "hazing" in colleges was rapidly falling into disuse, as it has long since, amongst thoughtful students, fallen into disrepute. Some recent cases in American colleges seem to show that it is not dead yet, though it may be that it is but showing its worst features in its expiring throes. The Faculty of Yale have expelled a student for engaging in the recreation in a particularly barbarous fashion, while it is said that a son of the distinguished lawyer Joseph H. Choate has been rendered insane in consequence of brutal treatment received at the hands of a class at Williams college. Such cases will probably hasten the downfall of the ruffianly practice, especially if the perpetrators come within the purview, as they should, of the criminal courts.

A rather interesting point of law and one that might in some cases involve important issues, is raised by a recent action of the Mariposa township council. The question was that of passing a by-law appropriating \$4,000 in aid of the Oakwood High School. The vote of the council stood three nays to two yeas. A section of the Act dealing with such cases provides that if two-thirds of a given council vote against a money grant to a School Board, the by-law has to be submitted to popular vote. As two-thirds of the council had not voted against the by-law it was declared carried. The objectors claim that by an interpreting clause which was passed to define the section of the Act in question, a majority of the council must be in favor of the by-law, in order to make it valid without a popular vote. Lawyers are said to take opposite views in regard to the meaning of the interpreting clause.

A SPIRITED debate, lasting from the afternoon of Tuesday, to about 3 a.m. on Thursday morning, with intermissions for food and sleep, took place at the recent session of the Baptist Convention in Toronto, over the McMaster University question. The "trust" was thankfully and heartily accepted by the representatives on behalf of the denomination. The main discussion was on the alternatives of absolute independence, or possible federation. No one, so far as appeared, favored the idea of entering into federation under the scheme at present existing, but strong differences of opinion were developed as to whether an unconditional declaration in favor of independence should at once be made, or the question be left open for future consideration. The matter was finally left for the decision of another special convention to be called within seven months. Meanwhile a Board of Governors was elected to take over and administer the trust.

PRESIDENT WILSON seems disposed to lament that any increase in the numbers and emoluments of teachers in the university "has been thus far obtained at the costly sacrifice of scholarships and prizes hitherto awarded in the faculties of arts, medicine, and law." He is encouraged, however, by the liberal responses already made to his appeal, to anticipate the replacement of these scholarships and prizes from other sources. This is as it should be. No one can object to having a stream of private liberality turned in this direction. It will indeed still remain an open question whether the funds thus devoted could not be turned to much better advantage in endowing needed chairs of instruction, in subjects now neglected or feebly dealt with. But the right of the givers to give in their own way, and for the objects which commend themselves to their own judgments, is indisputable, while the liberality itself is a matter for congratulation.

How contagious is evil example in high quarters! A few years ago the columns of the newspapers used to teem with denunciations of the ruffianism of the students of some of the great English universities on Convocation days. We have heard little of such abuse of late and may charitably hope the average British student has become wiser. Have the students of University College taken up the cast off role? There is sometimes a perverse tendency on the part of colonists to imitate and perpetuate anything supposed to be English, and, as is the rule with imitators, the weaknesses and follies of the