

EDITORIAL NOTES.

TEACHERS MEET.

The Educational Association of Ontario meets during Easter week. The programme is a good one, able speakers are promised, we ought to have a good meeting. The proposals in the Bill introduced by the Minister of Education, and now before the Ontario House of Assembly, should encourage teachers and awaken them to a sense of the responsibility which the Minister asks the House to confer upon their profession. A copy of the proposed Bill has not yet reached us; we will return to the subject next month.

We have lately given one or two papers by Commissioner Harris, Washington, on Interest, as a sufficient motive power to secure the best results in educational work. In this issue we give a paper by Mr. McMurry on the same subject. The former, Dr. Harris, takes the position that, in order to get the highest and best results in education, interest *per se* is not sufficient; the latter, Prof. McMurry, seems to hold that it is sufficient, tho' towards the end of his paper he seems to give up his contention, when he admits that, without a consciousness of authority somewhere residing in the school organism, disorder and chaos might invade the essence of the school. Whenever this happens, the best outcome is not secured. All educators on this point are at one. Both writers are able, experienced and good men. The discussion is interesting, profitable and timely. We are sure our readers must enjoy the perusal of these valuable papers; the profit will come to the profession and to the schools.

COUNCIL OF EDUCATION.

The Hon. the Minister of Education has introduced an Act, which we are sure will be welcomed by the educators of Ontario. The title is The Ed. Department Act, 1896 and is virtually a revival and extension of the Council of Public Instruction, on which the public school teachers of Ontario had representation for some years before the Council was replaced by the Executive Committee of the Government on Education.

Matters educational are and have been under vigorous and intelligent discussion in England for some years. The schools of the various kinds, whether elementary, grammar, private or "public," are carefully considered by the general educational public and by a representative commission which called before it a very large number of witnesses to state their views on all classes of schools for the instruction and guidance of the Commission in forming its report. This report is now appearing in parts as our readers know. It is a valuable one and is likely to have an important effect upon legislation in all parts of the Empire, but especially in England.

Not the least important part of this active discussion, to which we now refer, is that which teachers through their various organizations contribute. All classes of schools, outside of the Universities, actively participate in this way to bring all the Secondary Schools of England into one scheme for the betterment of the secondary education of the country. In all the discussion which is going on in Societies, Associations, etc., and in the contribution made to it by individuals, it is to be noted with satisfaction how much is made of the opinions of those