

A fine new building, the Joseph Howe school, named in honour of Nova Scotia's illustrious statesman, was opened in Halifax on the third of February. Not only has ample provision been made for the day school pupils, but a number of rooms have been fitted with electric lighting for night schools.

Judge of Probates A. I. Trueman, chairman of the board of school trustees of St. John, died on the 7th of February after a lingering illness. Judge Trueman was a graduate of Dalhousie University. Previous to beginning the practice of law, he taught school in the province, and was the superintendent of the Portland, N. B., schools. He was a man of strict integrity, and had held several positions of trust and honour in the city of St. John.

One of the most interesting features of last year's school life in Kentville Academy, says the *Advertiser*, was the organization of a police force, which, though a marked departure from the routine of ordinary school discipline, was attended with notable success. The conduct of pupils in the halls and about the grounds was most efficiently looked after. The officers were elected by the boys themselves, and in no case did one prove unworthy of the trust and confidence placed in him by his fellows. It is specially worthy of mention that no offender murmured at the imposition of his penalty. Recently the staff was re-organized and a new set of officers elected. On these the eyes of the rest are fixed. Failure or laxity in the performance of duty is commented upon. They must be zealous both in looking after the indiscretions of others and in guarding their own actions. The academy rule of conduct is based on the belief that under ordinary circumstances every boy knows what is right to do, and should do it. A student guilty of misconduct is given a warning, and, in case of persistence, is promptly arrested, duly convicted and punished. Any case requiring corporal punishment is dealt with by the principal.

E. A. Munro, now in the fourth year at Dalhousie College, has been nominated for the Rhodes scholarship. He is a graduate of the normal school at Truro, and has taught school at Middle Musquodoboit, Pugwash and Shelburne. He has taken a leading position in his classes in college, in athletics, and has taken a very active interest in sports generally.

Dean Bovey, of McGill University, has accepted the rectorship or headship of the Imperial College of Science and Technology, London, an institution which has been for some time in process of organization, and which is intended to be a training school for the highest class of scientific teachers in the British Empire. The *Montreal Witness* declares that it is the highest appointment of its kind in the British Empire.

Roy Leitch, of Charlottetown, now finishing an arts course at Dalhousie; Athol Seaman, Charlottetown, a Dalhousie graduate; Joseph Daly, Iona, and a student at St. Dunstan's College, are the Island candidates for the Rhodes scholarships this year.

The Dalhousie College *Gazette* has entered upon the fortieth year of its existence. It can lay claim to be not only one of the oldest, but one of the best college journals on the continent.

The Halifax school board has fitted up one of its new buildings so that it may be used for evening schools. That is progressive; but it is only a matter of simple justice to

those who have been imperfectly educated that facilities should be provided to give them a better education. Why need school houses be closed three-fourths of every school day, two whole days of every week, and for two or three months every year? It is a stupid waste of money and material.

Dr. Geo. R. Parkin, the Rhodes scholar commissioner, stayed for a few days in these provinces on his way to England in February. He spent a day at St. Joseph's College, Memramcook, N. B. It is St. Joseph's turn to send a Rhodes scholar this year, and the University of New Brunswick will have the privilege twelve months hence. He is endeavouring to secure another scholarship for Canada, to be awarded in the province of Alberta. At present Saskatchewan and Alberta share one scholarship between them, but the time has come when each of the new provinces should send her own representative.

### RECENT BOOKS.

A revised edition of Miss Emily P. Weaver's *Canadian History* (cloth, price 50 cents, Copp, Clark & Co., Toronto) has been published. It is profusely illustrated, many of the maps and illustrations being new, and is well printed. Its record of events is brought up to date, and this, with the easy style in which it is written, and the generally attractive appearance of its pages, makes it a very interesting book for the student of our history.

The way to make English composition attractive to children has apparently been solved at last. The *Public School English Composition*, by Dr. F. H. Sykes (cloth, pages 293, price 50 cents), published by the Copp, Clark Company, Toronto, is almost an ideal book, and the practical teacher will cordially welcome its appearance as probably superior to any text-book on this subject now in use. Its series of seventy lessons covers very completely every phase of composition and the grammar required in connection with it. The models, illustrated exercises and themes are set forth clearly and attractively, and in a manner that impels the student to write, because his interest is aroused. In the hands of a skilful teacher the mass of material so well presented in this book should be a powerful stimulus to better results in English composition.

A very well arranged and attractive *Spelling Book* is that just issued from the press of Houghton, Mifflin Company, Boston. It is the joint work of Eliza R. Bailey, teacher of elementary English in Boston, and Dr. John M. Manly, head of the department of English in Chicago University. Its main feature, and one that has been apparently worked out with much care, is to take interesting passages from literature, carefully graded, and select from these words to be spelled. Lists of common words, and those liable to be misspelled, are arranged for reviews.

The latest addition to the popular series of Eclectic Readings is Baldwin's *Another Fairy Reader* (cloth, pages 192, price 33 cents), designed for use in middle and lower primary classes. The tales are from various sources, and represent the fairy lore of various peoples and countries. Without being too didactic, they teach the children lessons of kindness, cheerfulness, helpfulness and courage. The illustrations are numerous and attractive. American Book