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THE committee to whom is entrusted the task of reading and estimating the manuscripts for a school history of Canada will meet in Quebec, July 25th. It is understood that a number of competitors have retired from the contest, and that the task of selecting will be from a limited number of manuscripts.

THE example of the town of St. Stephen in school matters has always been potent for good. At this time when complaint is being made regarding low salaries, the St. Stephen board has approved of a progressive scale of salaries for its teachers, which appears in another column. It will be noticed that the minimum is the salary now paid the rank and file teachers, and it increases for five years, always providing the work of the teacher is satisfactory to the school board, principal and inspector.

There can be no doubt of the wisdom of this step as well as of its economy. Teachers will not only be encouraged to make their best effort, but will be induced to continue in the service of the Board.

Few, if any, vocations, save that of teaching, deny increased remuneration with increased experience, and

in none is it more deserved. There are indications, somewhat far apart it must be confessed, that the work of the teacher is becoming better appreciated, and the recent action of the St. Stephen Board is surely one of them.

WOULD it not be possible to lessen the number of departmental examinations in New Brunswick? During the first week in July there will be examinations for admission to Normal school,—first, second and third class; junior and senior leaving, and university matriculation examinations. If some of these could be united or an arrangement on a simpler basis made, it would be a great boon to teachers and students.

ARE our normal schools in these lower provinces doing the work of superior and high schools, and neglecting, or doing superficially, the work of preparation for teaching? In the case of one, at least, a decided affirmative was given to this question recently by a gentleman who ought to know.

ON the 20th of June the canal between the Baltic and North Seas was opened with probably the greatest naval display ever witnessed. From eighty to one hundred war vessels, representing the principal navies of the world, took part. These passed through the canal from its western end at the mouth of the Elbe to Kiel Harbour on the Baltic. The beginning of the canal was made eight years ago by the Emperor William, and now his grandson, the present emperor of Germany, has opened it with imposing ceremonies. It is sixty-one miles long and cost nearly \$40,000,000. It will be of immense importance to Germany in case of war; and its advantages to commerce will be much greater. Thirty-five thousand vessels annually pass round Denmark, and in the rocky channels of this dangerous voyage nearly 3000 vessels have been lost and 3500 others badly damaged since 1858.

ON the 20th of June Queen Victoria completed the 58th year of a reign exceeded by only one English sovereign—George III, who ruled 60 years. But during the last ten years of his reign, the administration