

### N. B. Teachers Association.

From a late circular published by the New Brunswick Teachers' Association the following encouraging statements are made. It has now members in every city and in thirteen counties of the province, and is fast becoming a power for good in educational circles:

From 1884 to 1902, salaries of all classes of New Brunswick teachers steadily declined; but since the N. B. T. A. was initiated in Albert County, September 26, 1902, salaries of every class have increased, the gains from June 30, 1902, to June 30, 1905, being for each class as follows: First class males, \$67 per year; second, \$30; third, \$15. First class females, \$24; second, \$16; and third, \$9. The aggregate gain to the profession in those three years was \$24,472, while the amount of dues paid to the N. B. T. A. and its subordinate associations did not exceed \$500—a very good return for the investment.

The Association having succeeded so well during its first three years, when only a small part of the profession, mainly of the higher classes, were enrolled, what may it not accomplish when all, or the majority, of the unorganized teachers become members!

The National Teachers' Union of Great Britain, founded in 1870, includes over three-quarters of the profession, and has succeeded in bringing salaries and teaching conditions up to a respectable level, and is consulted by the British government before any important legislation respecting education is introduced. The Chicago Teachers' Union has since 1896 revolutionized conditions in that city. The Nova Scotia Teachers' Union, organized in 1896, has succeeded in securing from the provincial government a system of pensions for teachers. What other teachers have gained, we may gain if we unite and work together.

The total number of members in the British House of Commons is 670; in the House of Lords, 594. Probably the number in the House of Lords now is over 600, for several peerages have been created during the last few months.

### CURRENT EVENTS.

FIVE hundred teachers of Great Britain and Ireland are coming to Canada and the United States to study educational conditions, and will remain here from four to twelve weeks. They are sent out at the instance of Alfred Moseley, M. P., the millionaire, who has already done so much for education. The expenses of all will be paid. This is a great opportunity. Who will do the same for a few hundred teachers of Canada. The Summer School of Science of the Atlantic Provinces, a few years ago, tried to formulate a plan to hold a travelling session in Europe. Has that scheme been abandoned? There is much to be said in its favor.

It is expected that Herculaneum, the ancient Roman city, buried by the eruption of Vesuvius at the time of the destruction of Pompeii, will be

excavated by the united action of the governments of Great Britain, France, Germany, Italy and the United States. Many valuable manuscripts and works of art undoubtedly are buried there; for Herculaneum was the place of residence of many wealthy Romans, and, unlike Pompeii, it was covered deep with earth, and not destroyed by fire.

An agreement made between the British government and the United States regarding the rights of United States fishing vessels on the Newfoundland coast, though it is of a temporary nature, has given much dissatisfaction in Newfoundland, as it confers upon the foreign fishermen certain privileges which the Newfoundland government has denied to resident fishermen in the interests of fishery protection. It is said that the United States fishermen will voluntarily relinquish these privileges; but that is so very unusual that it is hard to believe.

The military occupation of Cuba by the United States forces has taken place without disturbance. The disarmament of the insurgents has thus far been effected without resistance. The country is to be governed for the present by United States officers in the name of the Cuban people and under the Cuban flag. But the independence of Cuba is indefinitely postponed.

In Russia there is a large socialist party that will never be satisfied with any constitution which respects the right of private ownership in land. The socialists claim that every man should have as much land as he can cultivate unaided, and no more. The idea is not new in Russia, where communal lands are redistributed from time to time; but the socialists seek the abolition of all private property, and the application of this principle to all the land. Therefore, there is fear that the new Russian parliament, which is to meet in February or March, will but precipitate a threatened revolution instead of establishing a strong constitutional government under the present Czar.

The persecutions of the Jews in Russia, because of their disloyalty, has led to a rapid and very general emigration, which tends to remove one disturbing element. Most of them come to America.

The Canadian government is to take over the dockyards at Halifax, now the property of the Imperial government. The transfer will be made in a few weeks.

The British parliament has re-assembled, and a disturbance made by disorderly women marked the opening day. They were advocates of woman suffrage, who thought they were thus advancing their cause.

The Shah has opened the new Persian parliament in person, with a speech from the throne, which was received with the greatest enthusiasm. He believes that his people are ripe for constitutional government, and will support the constitution which he has given them.