

The Small Country School.

There is much being said of the undesirableness of the small country school. It has its disadvantages. But has it only disadvantages? It all depends upon the point of view. Many teachers are heard to say, "There is no interest in a school of five or ten pupils. The pupils get lonesome and I hardly know how to put in the time."

Did you ever hear a mother say, "I have only five or at most ten children? I wish I had twenty-five or thirty. I could do so much more for thirty than I can for five, and it would be so much more interesting."

If the only business of the teacher is to hear lessons and to drill on text-book exercises, time will hang heavy on her hands with only five pupils. If her business is also to bring up those children so that they will be able to do something useful and to behave themselves in a way that will bring most of good into their individual and social lives, then she will not find time enough in the school day to give each of ten children the help which he can utilize in the interesting process of learning the truth and putting it in practice in full and complete daily living.

Thirty children will have to be bunched and each bunch treated as a bunch. Ten children can be treated as individuals, each developed along the line of his greatest interest, strength and needs. The teacher being guide, helper, and friend of each, will find the time altogether too short to help this one in his need, to guide another in his interests, to induce another to make the effort necessary to success. One likes science, one mathematics, one literature, one history, one geography; one is imaginative and poetic, another is practical and prosaic, one likes to think, another likes to do with his hands, one has not come to himself and seems dull.

Joy and growth will come to the real teacher who tries to be of real service to each of these. The smallness of the school will be its strong point. Do you lead the children to face tasks or to face life?—*School News.*

After February next, no one will be allowed to guide a dirigible balloon or flying machine without passing an examination and obtaining a license; and the examinations for such licenses will be similar in every country.

Standard Topographical Map of Canada.

The Department of the Interior, at Ottawa, has just issued a new map of Prince Edward Island, comprising sheet No. 14 of the Standard Topographical Map of Canada. This map covers not only the whole of the Island, but parts of the Counties of Kent and Westmorland in New Brunswick and parts of the Counties of Cumberland, Colchester, Pictou, Antigonish and Inverness in Nova Scotia.

The map is of a convenient size—about three feet square, and is on the comparatively large scale of 3.95 miles to the inch. It shows all surveys to date, post offices, stations on the railway, highways and roads and all other available information within the territory covered.

A series of these maps is being issued by the Chief Geographer of the Department of the Interior. Maps are being prepared in detail of the most important districts of the Dominion, and the intention is to combine them as has been done in the case of Prince Edward Island into large and complete maps of each of the Provinces of Canada when all are finished. In the meantime, copies of the map of each district are being issued for the convenience of the public as soon as the individual plates are completed. The following sheets have been published, covering portions of Nova Scotia in the same scale as the map of Prince Edward Island: The Cape Breton sheet—(comprising Cape Breton and part of the counties of Antigonish and Guysborough). The Truro sheet, comprising Pictou and parts of the Counties of Antigonish, Guysborough, Halifax, Colchester, Cumberland and Hants.

The Halifax, Yarmouth and Moncton sheets, covering the remainder of the Province and part of New Brunswick are in progress.

In New Brunswick, the St. John sheet on the smaller scale of 7.95 miles to the inch was published in 1905. This map does not cover quite all of the Province; the southeastern part of the Counties of Kent, Westmorland and Albert not being shewn, but a new and up-to-date map covering the entire Province is under preparation.

It will be interesting to the public to know that single copies of any one of the published sheets of the Standard Topographical Map may be obtained free on application to the Chief Geographer of the Department of the Interior, Ottawa.

Teachers in the Maritime Provinces should watch the progress of these maps, and see that their schools are provided with them. These fine maps may be obtained without any trouble but the asking for them.