



A DEPARTMENT OF PEOPLE AND AFFAIRS

THE "HEAD" OF THE UNIVERSITY SCHOOLS



HE making of a school in the real sense is not a matter of mobilizing bricks and mortar, men and boys. These are necessary of course, but without a "central vitalizing force", the result, says one who has particular knowledge of the schools in question, can never be "more than an educational cafeteria. For this reason the University Schools were most fortunate in having as their first Headmaster Prof. H. J. Crawford."

It is but nine years since "U.T.S."—to give the new institution of learning its familiar name—were established as practice schools for the students in the Faculty of Education, which itself came into being only in 1907. Nevertheless the true end and aim of a school, the education of its pupils, is never allowed to slip out of sight, and already the University Schools count among the great schools of the Dominion. As the laboratory of the Faculty of Education they have the benefit of a staff chosen with special thought and care, of buildings designed to show what the housing of such an institution should be and of peculiarly excellent equipment for science, art and other classes.

The University Schools opened in September, 1910, with 325 boys on the roll. There are now 450 pupils, of whom 250 belong to the senior school. The waiting list is always long, and lads are examined before admission. Preference is given to those intending to go on to the University, and French and Latin are taken in the junior school. In the rare cases where boys will not work they are not allowed to remain in the schools.

The Headmaster was born fifty-four years ago in Hastings County, at Bridgewater, a village about thirty miles from Belleville, where his father was superintendent of an axe factory, but it was in the public schools of Kincardine, Bruce County, that he received his early education and, incidentally, gained the reputation of a "boy-wonder". At ten years of age he passed the entrance; at twelve he obtained a second-class teacher's certificate and, at sixteen, he embarked upon his life-work and became a master in Harriston High School.

This position he filled for three years and a half, and it is told that when the Inspector of High Schools, Dr. Seath, in the pursuance of his professional duties, arrived one day at Harriston he met the youthful teacher and mistook him for a school-boy.