

EDITORIAL NOTES.

TOPICS OF THE TIME.

WITH the present number we complete half a year's labour in our endeavour to establish a Monthly Magazine in Canada in the important interests of Education, of a character befitting the cause it represents, and the profession engaged in it. It is not for us to say how successfully we have done our work, nor how far we have fulfilled the promise of our original prospectus. We are but too conscious of having come short of the ideal with which we set out; though it will be understood that the realization of our aims was contingent as much upon the efforts of others as upon our own. Still, we have not been left in the dark as to the acceptability

of our work, for the response it has met with has been hearty and flattering. If the range of acknowledgment has been somewhat narrow and the area of our circulation not all that could be desired, it has been due to causes other than those which the Magazine could itself influence. For we have not only had to contend against indifference in regard to our venture, but, to some extent, there has been a withholding of support from ungracious motives. The teacher's occupation is not always manifested in its liberalizing light. In the profession, as out of it, are to be found men sluggish alike in their intellect and their sympathies. The earnest, enthusiastic natures are ever the few, as are those in the profession on whom rests the spirit of their vocation. Yet have we striven to arouse a kindling interest in educational work, and there has been much to encourage one in the result. With each successive issue we have made a gain, and we hope, as we go on, to find continuous and increasing evidence of it. With a closer contact we shall have a quickened activity, and with a wider acquaintance will come an extended support. Meantime,

perhaps our friends will do a little more to contribute to this. There are many sections of the Province in which THE MONTHLY is yet a stranger. In all of them the publication should be welcomed, for only a wide-spread circulation can sustain it. County Teachers' Associations offer the readiest means of enlarging the sphere of our activity, therefore vigorous and concerted measures to disseminate THE MONTHLY should not be omitted from any programme at the Conventions. Substantial aid on such occasions might also be rendered in securing literary contributions, and otherwise in quickening the sense of the need of a fittingly representative professional journal, and in ensuring it adequate support. Nor should the social value of an organ like THE MONTHLY be lost sight of at these meetings, for the greater the professional recognition it receives the more it will be able to interest public sympathy in the teacher and his work. At its almost nominal subscription rate, moreover, little should interfere with its most signal success. May this be now speedily secured.

During the summer months, when matter becomes rather scanty, and support somewhat flags, the Magazine will appear bi-monthly, though the issues will be increased in bulk to make up in part for the absent numbers. With the September number the monthly issue will be resumed, and we hope in the interval to receive large accessions to the subscription list, and many contributions for its pages.

In reply to a letter from Mr. Seath, Chairman of the Executive Committee of the High School Masters' Section of the Teachers' Association for Ontario, requesting him to postpone the fixing of a date for the Annual Intermediate and for the one next