PERSONAL WORK

them together for instruction, he is obliged therefore to meet them as best he can in the home or some other convenient place. However, if the work is arduous, faithfulness and diligence are always amply rewarded.

NATIONAL EDUCATION.

BY F. C. IRELAND, B. Sc.

In the education of the nation by the nation, the children of the common people as well as those of the sovereign have to follow the same method, as the following incident illustrates. When Ptolemy Philadelphus King of Egypt, wished to be a mathematician but deterred by the difficulty of attainment, asked if he could not be instructed by some easier method, the answer which he received was from Euclid of Alexandria, to the effect that "there was no royal road to geometry." All must therefore travel the same road knowledge will not come by nature nor by chance. Precepts do not always convey it. Talents do not always ensure it. It is the fruit of effort. It is the reward of application.

There is considerable cultivation before the land will bring forth its increase and so it takes a good deal of close application before the mind acquires the habits of method and regularity in study that ensure success. The person who has learnt how to learn can soon learn anything. The forces of the mind become accustomed to active exertion. They are alert, well disciplined and ready for the ordeal and it frequently happens that the first degree obtained in College arouses the student to the realization that he has only commenced his education.

The more progress is made the more satisfaction there is in study until in many cases the thirst for knowledge becomes so intense that every spare moment is sedulously employed in study and research. The faculties of the mind having become so invigorated, disciplined and strengthened by the exercise of study that it has become the greatest pleasure of life Happy it is if their education is on so broad a basis that they do not think of sacrificing the soldier in the cultivation of the scholar, or become a sickly sentimental thing instead of an heroic

23