

A Teacher's Opinion.

Mr. H. C. Henderson, Ph. D., formerly of the Fredericton high school, but now teacher of psychology and pedagogy, in the State normal school, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, still retains his interest in our educational work as the following extract from a letter recently received from him will show:

I greatly enjoy the monthly visits of the REVIEW, and I have been specially pleased in noting the records of progress along various educational lines.

The manual training movement has now successfully entered upon the second stage of its growth in the maritime provinces and it is a great pleasure to note that the governments as well as the local authorities are making such generous provision for its maintenance and further extension. The sentiment in favor of consolidated schools evidently is growing and it will not be many years, I trust, before each county will have a number. Then it will be possible to give our country boys and girls the foundations of an education both broad and thorough and under vastly superior conditions. When the country taxpayer realizes that purely as an investment the consolidated system is by far the most profitable, the country boy and girl will begin to have a chance.

Here in Wisconsin both the above movements are making considerable progress though the state has lacked the great assistance of private munificence. It is interesting to note that the question of teachers' salaries, which is evidently receiving much attention at home, is just now a very live one here as well. One whole session of the State Teachers' Association, this year, as well as last, was devoted to a discussion of various phases of the subject. Teachers' salaries in the state at large have this past year, as a result of the campaign of education along this line, been increased by \$250,000, and in the city of Milwaukee alone, \$65,000. The motto of the Wisconsin Association in connection with this matter is "Just compensation for good work done and no poor work tolerated at any price."

Summer Schools.

One cannot glance over our advertising columns without being impressed with the increasing number of the vacation schools announced for next summer. McGill, Harvard, Cornell, have courses in special subjects for advanced students; the Nova Scotia Normal School will continue the work it has so well begun in recent years; and the Summer School of Science, which has done some good work in the past for our teachers, has many features that commend it to the notice of those who wish to combine recreation with a not too rigid course of study. We hope that our teachers are seriously considering the

advantages that these Summer Schools afford. If their work has been more or less exhausting during the year, it may necessitate for some a complete rest; but for others it is more probable that a change of scene with the recreation that comes from putting mind and soul at work vigorously on some out-of-door subjects will be just the tonic required.

Of course the teacher who "knows it all" does not need the Summer School; nor does the one who is satisfied with a certain measure of attainment; nor again those who, by travel, by communion with books, with nature, or with congenial companions and surroundings, have many resources to fill up the all too swiftly flying hours of a vacation. Down in the hearts of others there will be the consciousness that present attainment is not enough; that there are the defects of a too scanty education to be overcome. They want to be real leaders of those whom they teach. They are ambitious to know their subjects. These will take a course at a good Summer School and probably that will whet the appetite for a full college course.

A Man Has Gone From Among Us.

The sudden death of the Rev. John de Soyres, of St. John, has produced a profound impression of sorrow wherever this gifted man was known. Rare scholarly attainments, the treasures of a richly stored mind, the magnetism of a convincing eloquence, and an interesting personality were his. Coming from England seventeen years ago, he brought with him the culture and ripest thought of the England of to-day. These gifts he lavished on his adopted country. There was scarcely a city in Canada but what has felt the spell of his genius and eloquence. By voice or by pen he was easily foremost in all important public questions, and the higher and purer life of the citizen had in him a strenuous advocate. His many public utterances on education gave the impression that he had studied this question as few men can study it—with an insight into its full meaning, and with an intensity that showed how fully he realized its vast importance. He never spared his strength, time or means in laboring for the public good and for his own immediate charge. He was a man of strong impulses. His eccentricities, which afforded food for idle remark at the moment, are forgotten when we reflect that he is no longer with us, that his marvellous voice though silent still speaks to us. Truly it has been an inspiration to have had such a man as this come to dwell among us.