

The Annual Meeting of the North Wellington Teachers' Association was held in Palmerston on May 21st and 22nd. About one hundred and twenty-five teachers were present and the meeting was very pleasant and successful. We greatly regret our inability to publish the excellent report which was forwarded by the Secretary. The officers for the current year are as follows : President, Mr. James Wiseman ; 1st Vice-Pres., Mr. H. T. Jarrett ; 2nd Vice-Pres., Mr. R. S. Swan ; 3rd Vice-Pres., Miss Annie Crosby ; Secretary, Mr. A. McLean ; Treasurer, Mr. R. W. Bright ; Committee of Management, Messrs. Amos Dabes, D. Smith, Misses Kate E. Kennedy, Annie Sutherland and Anna M. Bradley.

THE Annual Meeting of the National Teachers' Association, U.S.A. which is to be held, as all our readers know, this year, July 14-16 (both days inclusive), in Toronto, promises to be quite successful. The arrangements for the Meeting are in the hands of good committees which are attending to every detail and the expectation is that it will be a season of profit to all engaged in the education of the country.

AN Inspector who has 120 teachers in his district told us last week that a third of the teachers retire every year ; that the salaries are becoming less year by year and that the number of lady teachers is largely on the increase. Men cannot remain as teachers because they cannot get enough money for their services to enable them to live in moderate comfort. Therefore they seek other employment as soon as possible.

The bitter leaven of party-politics permeates the common life of the people and injuriously affects the interests of education.

Far too much attention is paid to methods ; the teacher losing his individuality, his personal power is almost *nil*. Mr. Robertson's paper in this number is timely ; another introduces a subject requiring much attention from all our teachers. The question affects the professor just as much as the public school teacher. The teachers are the makers of a country.

SUCCESS has attended the vigorous and timely protest made by some of the authorities in the English Training Colleges against that part of the syllabus of studies prescribed by the Education Department which made compulsory the study of Dr. Bain's "Education as a Science," and Mr. Herbert Spencer's essay on education. Says *The School Guardian* : "Mr. Herbert Spencer, starting with the reasonable position that the object of education is to fit man for complete living, proceeds to enumerate the constituent elements of complete life, but unfortunately ignores altogether man's spiritual activities and destinies. He takes no cognizance of the present life of the soul or of the life to come. It may be urged that, with his well-known views, he could not be expected to hold a brief for religion. Our only answer to this objection is that for this very reason his book ought not to be forced on institutions and students that profess Christianity. In some circumstances the heresy of omission may be compensated for, but when a writer professes to be exhaustive his omissions assume a positive aspect. When Mr. Spencer says that life is made up of such and such activities, and entirely omits from his list those activities in which man's higher life most truly consists, he produces the impression that, in his opinion, there is no such higher life. As to Dr. Bain, he does not seem to us to have been quite able to "make up