

The Executive of the Ontario Teachers' Association held its usual meeting last month, and selected the following subjects for discussion at the annual convention, to be held in Toronto on the 7th, 8th and 9th days of August next:—(1) Township School Boards. (2) Uniform promotion Examinations in the Public Schools. (3) The relation of the programmes of the Public and High School. (4) Training Schools for Teachers. Several prominent gentlemen are expected to deliver addresses during the sessions of the convention.

Among the items of supply granted by the Ontario Legislature now in session in Toronto are the following:—

Public and Separate Schools, \$240,000.
Inspection of the above, \$23,600.
Schools in poor townships, \$12,000.
Collegiate Institutes and High Schools, \$78,000.
Inspection of the above, \$8,200.
Superannuated Teachers, \$35,500.
Toronto Normal and Model Schools, \$26,750.
Educational Museum and Library, \$3,950.
Journal of Education, \$2,300.
Education Department, \$20,350.
Ottawa Normal School, \$13,850.

From the annual report of the Inspector for Welland Co. we glean the following:—"Total number of schools in county, 93, number of pupils enrolled, 6,314; average attendance, 2,666, or only about 42 per cent. of the number enrolled. Total amount paid teachers, and for improvement on buildings, &c., \$37,499.76, or about \$6 for each pupil enrolled. The compulsory clause requiring four months' continuous attendance of pupils is not strictly enforced, and can scarcely be looked for under the Section system. The examination of pupils for admission into the High Schools are having a beneficial effect upon the schools, serving, as they do, as county examinations, at which the best pupils in all the schools can compete."

The following paragraph, clipped from a city weekly in Canada, does not say much for the educational attainments of its editor. Comment would be superfluous:—

"Having paid a visit to Hull yesterday, to see if the authorities had found the missing man Hutobinson. But what was my surprise to find no person there: and Dame rumour had it that the authorities had liberated the prisoners. Now that the Hull authorities fails to own the arm of the law, which they are the administrators—it now behoves law-abiding men to come forward and volunteer to help the friends to clean out that pond, and endeavour to support the arm of the law, where the Hull Magistrate now fails to make the sword of the Magistrate a terror to evil-doers."

A Trustee in the County of Oxford charged the Public School Inspector with "giving illegal advice to the Trustees and with refusing to investigate protests made against the annual school meeting, &c." The Committee on Education reported to the Council "that having made full inquiry into the charges made against the Inspector, they found them unnecessary and uncalled for; that they had ascertained from the Inspector and the admissions of the complainant, that the section is in a very disorganized state, there being bickerings and ill feelings between the inhabitants; and that the Inspector did all that the law required in the matter, and endeavored in a courteous and peaceable manner, to heal the ill-feeling and strife that had existed." The report was adopted by the Council.

At a meeting held in School Section No. 5, Bonanquet, last month, the following, among other resolutions, were submitted and adopted:—

(1) That thoroughness in the branches taught is of the utmost importance; and as there are too many branches attempted to be taught, considering the time children generally attend the rural schools, none are so thoroughly taught as they should be, and, as a consequence, the system is defective.

(2) That there is too great a difference between third and second-class certificates, and that thereby many good teachers are lost to the profession; and that we recommend an intermediate grade.

(3) That the Christmas vacation should begin on the 25th December and end on the 1st January; that the Easter vacation be abolished; and that the summer vacation do not exceed four weeks.

A difficulty has arisen in Whitley out of the election for school trustees. One gentleman was elected for the remainder of an unexpired term: a voter for the full term of a retiring trustee. The voters' notices of election were in the usual form for the annual election of trustees to fill vacancies at the board, nothing being said about the election of a trustee for the unexpired term. The puzzle, therefore, is which is which—which was elected for the full term, and which for the unexpired term?

In reference to the above the *Whitley Chronicle* says—"Our own reading of the Act is that there has been no election for the unexpired term; that only one trustee has been regularly elected, viz., he who receives the highest number of votes; and that there must be a new election for a trustee to complete the unexpired term."

In a recent issue of the *Dublin Freeman* is an advertisement for a school teacher, in which the manager, anxious to secure an efficient master, inserts the following clause:—"He must not have been trained in any of the Board's Model or Training Schools." Such an announcement will strike our readers as being somewhat extraordinary, in as much as the Model and Training Schools in Ireland have the name of being very superior seats of learning, being well endowed, and equipped with every appliance that can make their labors successful. That a teacher trained in these national institutions would not be engaged by the advertiser is explained by the fact that the reverend manager is a parish priest, and that the Bishops of Ireland no longer sanction Catholic teachers going to the Board's training establishments.

At the meeting on the 26th ult., of the Prince Edward Teachers' Convention in Picton arrangements were made to put into general practice the plan devised by the County Inspector, as follows:—"On the two days in each half year which the law allows for the purpose of visiting other schools, the teachers of a township meet at some central school which is kept in operation for the purpose of mutual improvement. The classes of this school are taught the usual branches by the senior teachers in attendance, and there is thus an excellent opportunity of comparing and criticising the various modes of instruction." The plan is found to work well, and is very highly commended by the teachers present at the first trial. It is especially beneficial to the younger members of the profession.

Rev. Mr. Young having returned to Ontario, his place at the School Board in Winnipeg, Manitoba, has been filled by the appointment of Mr. W. H. Ross to the position. The *Christian Guardian* com-