

If not called for within one month, the Postmaster will please send to the School Inspector.

JOURNAL OF

Province of



EDUCATION,

Ontario.

VOL. XXVII.

TORONTO, OCTOBER, 1874.

No. 10.

CONTENTS OF THIS NUMBER.

	PAGE
COUNCIL OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION	145
CASE AND CORRESPONDENCE RESPECTING THE PRICES OF BOOKS FOR SCHOOL LIBRARIANS AND PRIZES	147
NUMBER OF CERTIFICATES AWARDED.....	155
I. PAPERS ON LITERARY AND SCIENTIFIC SUBJECTS.—(1) The Uses of Philology. (2) Phonetic Spelling. (3) Physiology in the Schools.....	155
II. MATHEMATICAL DEPARTMENT.....	156
III. PAPERS ON PRACTICAL EDUCATION.—(1) Signalling Classes. (2) Spare the Rod. (3) Free-Hand Drawing	157
IV. MONTHLY REPORT ON METEOROLOGY OF THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO.....	159
V. EDUCATIONAL INTELLIGENCE	160
VI. DEPARTMENTAL NOTICES	160
VII. ADVERTISEMENT	160

COUNCIL OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION.

We insert in this number of the *Journal of Education* the official record of the proceedings of the first meetings of the Council of Public Instruction, as constituted under the newly Consolidated School Acts. These meetings were preliminary, and provided for the appointment of the necessary committees, to which was assigned the duty of preparing the business which will come before the Council at its adjourned meeting of the 6th of October.

To the record of proceedings of the Council we append a "case," which has been submitted to the Chief Justice of Ontario by the Chief Superintendent of Education, in regard to the *prices* to the schools of Prize and Library Books. The document forms an historical record of the various Acts of Parliament on the subject, and the proceedings of the Education Department in regard to Library and Prize Books and their prices during the last twenty years. Without such an historical record of the question being submitted, it was impossible to place the whole of the facts of the case before the learned Chief Justice and the public. Merely to submit the *ipsissima verba* of the present law on the subject, and the abstract question involved, would neither afford satisfactory evidence of the mind of the Legislature on the subject, nor the interpretation which, during the last twenty years, has been given by the Chief Superintendent to the law and regulations on the subject.

The question itself, as it stands between the public and the booksellers interested in the matter, is fully and clearly explained by the Chief Superintendent in his letter to the Chief Justice in submitting the "case." This letter will be found on page 148 of this *Journal*.

In summing up the "case," as submitted to the Chief Justice,

the following were the questions on which his opinion and decision were solicited by the Chief Superintendent:—

Question 1st. Whether the "prices" or "cost" to the schools of the prize and library books sanctioned by the Council of Public Instruction should be fixed—

- (1.) By the Council of Public Instruction.
- (2.) By the Chief Superintendent of Education.
- (3.) Or by the Booksellers, or other parties sending in books for the approval of the Council.

Question 2nd. On what principle should the "prices" or "cost" of these books to the schools be fixed, viz.:—

- (1.) Whether the "price" or "cost" of a book should include (a) its net prime cost from the original publisher, with the additional charge (b) for exchange, (c) freight and shipping dues, (d) duty, (e) insurance, (f) salaries of clerks, and (g) contingent expenses of management, which are all actual expenditures, and (h) the usual estimated percentage for depreciation of stock on hand.
- (2.) Or, whether, in addition to these actual expenditures incurred in procuring books and managing the Educational Depository, and for percentage for stock depreciation, the "prices" or "cost" of books to the schools should also include (i) an estimated sum for rent, (j) for taxes, (k) for interest on Legislative Grant employed, and (l) salaries of clerks, (at least beyond the \$1,400 per annum payable by Statute out of "grants" made by the Legislature).

Question 3rd. Whether the phrase "*on the same terms*," which originally occurred in the Act of 1855, and is continued in the Consolidated Acts of 1859 and 1874, would not determine the cost of the books to the schools on the principle of the rates of charge for them as they existed in 1855, viz.:—the prime cost of the books from the original publisher, with the added charge for exchange, freight, shipping charges, duty, insurance, salaries, and the estimated percentage for stock depreciations.

Question 4th. Whether an added profit out of books supplied to the schools from the Educational Depository over and above the amount of actual expenditure for them, contingent expenses of management and percentage for depreciation of stock, was contemplated or authorised, or is contemplated and authorized by the Legislature under its successive Acts bearing upon the subject.