

umbia, and still further, the waters of the Pacific Ocean, warmed by a current known as the Keiro Seiva, the Gulf Stream of the Pacific. The prevailing wind is westerly, warm and moisture bearing, from the Pacific this moisture coming in contact with the icy peaks and snow-clad sides of the mountains undergoes condensation and falls there in torrents of rain, but the heat which is evolved by this process of condensation comes through the mountain passes as a warm, dry wind from the west, familiarly known as the Chinook Winds.

IN answer to the letter of "Teacher" to be found in another column of this number, on some aspects of the annual examinations held by the Education Department, we offer the following remarks: It is correct, that about 6,000 candidates wrote for certificates of some grade, and that 1,400, or thereabouts, obtained a certificate, and the report at the annual meeting of the Ontario Teachers' Association was very general, that if the instructions to the readers of the candidates' answers given by one of those who prepared the examination papers had been followed, the number of certificates issued would have been considerably less.

Why should these facts disturb High School Masters?

Because the great majority of those who write at these annual examinations are prepared at the intermediate schools of the Province, and if they do not pass the prescribed standard of examination, the result is held to reflect discredit upon our preparatory schools, that is, on the masters. We refrain from stating here how masters are made to feel, and the means adopted to enable them to keep in

mind, the failure of their pupils; much to the discredit of those who represent the financial power of the people. To hold the master responsible for the rejection of his pupils is wholly unjust; for many write who, he knows, should not pass; are not prepared either by attendance at the school, or amount of work done, to pass; many write on chance; some write for the sake of the practice of writing. "The sight shot" of the marksman or the preliminary canter of the runner over the racecourse. How large a proportion these form of the total number it is impossible to say, but we are inclined to put it as between one-third and one-half. But now we state a fact which has for years perplexed the most expert masters in Ontario: of this unprepared half, say, of those who write on chance, some get their certificates, and of the prepared half, some of the best of them fail. What can be the explanation of this very disappointing result? Sometimes unexpected changes take place in university examinations; the candidates are interchanged among themselves in a manner unlooked for, but this is very seldom.

The chief difference in the conduct of these two examinations is that at the university examinations the examiner who prepares the paper reads the answers. At the departmental examination one sets the paper and the answers are given to a number of sub-examiners, who, if report be correct, are specially coached by the one who sets the questions. The opinion is pretty general, that if the same man who prepared the questions also read the answers of candidates, the results would be different, and not so disappointing to masters and candidates.