

Editorial Notes and Comments.

THE authorities of McGill University have issued a circular giving supplementary information concerning first year entrance exhibitions, the examinations for which will be held next September. There will be twenty exhibitions in all, ranging in value from sixty dollar. to two hundred dollars each. Two are open to men only, and three to women only, the rest being open to all. Twelve exhibitions of sixty dollars each are open for competition to residents of any part of Canada except the Island of Montreal. Full information regarding subjects of examination, etc., may be had on application to the Secretary of the University.

—THE *Montreal Witness* draws attention to the fact that Canada has as yet no accepted national song; and proposes to encourage the production of such a song by means of a competition, the terms of which will be gladly sent on application. The *Witness* says: We doubt if a national song can be produced by the method we propose, but we know of no other. Poets sing because they must, and it is their most spontaneous notes that trill the sweetest. Of a good song it might almost be said, *Nascitur non fit*—it is born, not made—so utterly artless is it. The anthem, "God Save the Queen," which holds its own above all others for Britain, was not the deliberate effort of a genius; it is an evolution of history. We doubt if a literary critic would ever have given a prize to either it or "Yankee Doodle." Hinting thus what are the conquering qualities in a song, we propose to offer a prize for the best Canadian patriotic song sent us before the first of May. We shall put no trammels upon its construction, but we may say that eight stanzas would probably kill the best song. It is not necessary to go over the rose, thistle and shamrock, nor to mention our mountains, mines, prairies, rivers, farms and cities. This line has been followed so often with unsucess that he will need to have a peculiarly delicate touch who seeks it again.

—"WHILE without doubt," says the *Teacher*, "the standards of the profession of teaching are advancing and the teacher occupies daily a more important place in public estimation than ever before, yet there is no question but that there is a lurking popular contempt for the teacher. The cause of this is in part due to the fact that grown-up