

2nd. That all High and Public School teachers and inspectors be required to contribute to the fund, and

3rd. That the annual fee be \$4, also an additional \$1 for every \$100 salary received above \$400.

Mr. J. Hughes then read an interesting paper on the Phonic Method of teaching reading.

NORTH RIDING OF ESSEX. Met at Windsor on Oct. 7th. Mr. Buchan, H. S.P., was warmly welcomed. After the President's lecture on the "Connection between Education and Patriotism," papers were read by Mr. Standish on "Time Tables," by Mr. McNiel on "Etymology." Mr. Ross, M.P., gave an excellent practical lecture on "Mistakes in Reading," and Mr. Buchan an essay on "Primeval Man."

On Friday morning Mr. W. J. Gage addressed the teachers in the interest of the CANADA SCHOOL JOURNAL. A committee appointed to consider Mr. Gage's proposals reported that a club of 80 would have the SCHOOL JOURNAL at .65 per copy.

NORTH RIDING OF ESSEX.—Mr. J. R. Brown addressed the Convention on "How a teacher should spend his time." Various suggestions were made, Mr. Brown advocating and Mr. C. N. Ashdown deprecating a good deal of attention being given to visiting the parents of children. Mr. Thomas urged that, above all else, teachers who wished to be in advance of the times should read the best educational journals. As to superannuation, the following was carried: That twenty-five years' service in the profession, or having attained the age of fifty years, entitle teachers to superannuation; that no part of the annual dues be returned to any teacher; that the allowance be increased, and the annual fees also; that provision be made for the widows of deceased superannuated teachers. A motion was also carried, asking Parliament to repeal the Act shortening the summer vacation.

WEST HURON.—The semi-annual meeting of this Association was held in the Goderich High School at 10 a.m. on the 8th ult. At this session about 50 teachers were present, and during the day the number was augmented to about 130, besides several of the model school teachers in training and some friends of the teachers. Mr. H. J. Strang, B.A., President, gave his opening address. The minutes of previous meeting were read by Mr. W. R. Miller (Sec.-Treas.) and confirmed. On motion, Miss Bond, with Messrs. Cantellon and Halls, were appointed a committee to arrange order of business and subsequent sessions. Mr. Elliott was substituted for Mr. Strang on Promotion Committee; and the following were appointed: Resolution Committee—Messrs. Huston, Brown, Caverhill, McGillivray and Cresswallier; Audit—Messrs. McAndrews and Orr; Question Drawer—Messrs. Strang, J. R. Miller, and Halls. The president, in the absence of the regular delegate, gave a summary of the subjects brought up at the Provincial Association. He said that the prevailing opinion held there was that recent measures were retrogressive rather than progressive, but he was glad to see the teachers from the Huron District spoke out manfully. It was thought advisable to have a committee to watch the legislature, and three from each section were appointed to resist any change that may be made adverse to the interests of the teachers. He felt with others that the claims of English over Mathematical subjects were pushed into the background, and that the real test of efficiency should rest with the former. The High School masters present passed a resolution expressing the injury that was being done from the undue prominence given to mathematical subjects, to the serious neglect of English. He held with Prof. Young that the country was being mathematized to death. The High School masters also passed a resolution strongly in favour of changing the rotation of examiners, so that complaints about members of the Central Committee and others interested in the text-books might be done away with. He thought that a great many of the best reforms were brought about by patient and persistent agitation. Mr. J. R. Miller, I.P.S., said that the Provincial Association made the profession what it is to-day. There should be changes made, and some useless branches were lopped off, but others still remained. He noted many questions on the Algebra paper of last examination which were unfair. In the 1st class there was too much of what was called "catch-work"; and there are some persons who have spent a good deal and used every effort they possessed to become teachers, but being caught by such catch-work, had their whole prospect in life destroyed. He moved a vote of thanks to the President for his able report; seconded by Mr. H. E. Houston, and carried unanimously. **SECOND SESSION, 2 P.M.**—Mr. J. W. Morgan, in a very interesting and masterly manner, showed his plan of teaching mensuration. Beginning with the simplest measurements, he demonstrated in the most practical way the dependence of the more advanced rules upon first principles, and illustrated his method by figures cut in leather and paper. At the conclusion he was warmly applauded and highly complimented by the President and several of the members. On motion he received the thanks of the meeting. Dr. T. F. McLean next read a paper on Hygiene of the Brain. He recommended good exercise to circulate the blood and stimulate the brain, which from study becomes heated and unable to do its work effectually. This exercise may consist of a change of subject or physical exertion. He said that Dr. Mosso, of Turin, had devised an apparatus called a plethysmograph, designed for measuring the volume of an organ. It is capable of

measuring the relative amount of mental power required by different persons to work out the same problem, and it was suggested it should be brought into the examination-room to test the mental capacity of the students. He (Mr. McLean) said that the school-room should be a place not only for mental exercise, but physical. An active dance would be of use if it would not detract from the dignity of the institution. Too much study in school often resulted in weak sight, especially when the light was not properly admitted. Light should come in from the left side of the apartment, and the walls should not be white. A cordial vote of thanks to Dr. McLean was proposed by Mr. J. R. Miller, I.P.S., seconded by Mr. Halls, and carried unanimously. Permission to publish the paper was requested and granted. Mr. H. J. Strang cleared away in a lucid manner the difficulties in analysis and parsing which had been sent in for that purpose by the teachers, after which Mr. G. W. Ross, M.P., who on entering was received with enthusiasm, gave a humorous and instructive address on the duties of teachers, as exemplified in the following five commandments of the teacher's decalogue:—1. Thou shalt have no other profession than this. 2. Thou shalt not make any counterfeits of thy profession. 3. Thou shalt not talk little of thy profession. 4. Remember to keep thy holidays sacred. 5. Honor thy trustees, that thy days may be long in the land. In the evening a crowded audience assembled in the Temperance Hall. A. M. Ross, Esq., M.P.P., occupied the chair. The Chairman, Mr. Strang, and Mr. J. R. Miller gave short addresses, bearing on the work done in the schools of the county. Mrs. Harries gave an effective reading; Miss Cooke and Miss Traynor sang each a duet with Mr. Saunders, who also contributed two solos, and Mr. Collins sang, with great ability and taste, a solo which displayed his splendid voice to advantage. Mr. G. W. Ross, M.P., then gave an address on the development of the faculties of children, chiefly discrimination, retentiveness and constructiveness. The address was marked by thrilling eloquence and an exhaustive exposition of the subject. During its delivery he was frequently applauded, and a vote of thanks was accorded him with acclamation. A similar compliment to the chairman, the other speakers, and those who took part in the entertainment was passed, and the meeting was closed by singing the National Anthem. **Third Session, Saturday, 9 a.m.** Minutes of previous meeting read and approved, after which Mr. G. W. Ross, in a clear, practical manner, showed how good reading should be taught. Mr. J. R. Miller, I.P.S., gave some excellent advice in the matter of school routine; dwelling especially upon drill, order, cleanliness, pure air, personal neatness &c. Mr. G. W. Ross then took up with great ability the subject of school management, in an address which was highly appreciated, and for which, together with his valued services at previous sessions, he received the cordial thanks of the association. The concluding exercise of the Convention was an explanation by Mr. J. A. Moore, B.A., of his method of teaching composition, which he ably illustrated. All the subjects brought forward at the several meetings were well discussed by the members. The Auditors' report was read and adopted: it showed a balance of \$84.00 in treasurer's hands. The officers for ensuing year were then elected as follows: President—Mr. H. J. Strang, B.A.; 1st. Vice-President—Miss M. A. Traynor; 2nd. Vice-President—Mr. G. Baird; Sec.-Treas.—Mr. W. R. Miller; Executive Committee—Misses Bond and Bucher, with Messrs. Houston, Halls, and Connolly. The Resolution Committee reported as follows:—*Resolved*, That this association strongly approve of the following resolutions passed at the last meeting of the Provincial Association in the High School Masters' section: 1st. That this section would desire to impress upon the Minister of Education, the advisability, in the interests of education, of adopting the principle of "rotation of examiners" as put into practice in connection with the examination of the University of Toronto. 2nd. That taking into consideration the object of the International examinations and the instructions given to the examiners by the Honorable, the Minister of Education, in his circular of December, 1877, this section considers that the paper on English Literature given at the last examination assumed too great maturity on the part of purely intermediate candidates; that the paper on arithmetic was too difficult, while that on algebra was wholly unsuitable. Your committee also submit:—That the recent changes made by the Provincial Legislature with regard to shortening the summer holidays were unwise and uncalled for in the best interests of education. On motion, the report was received and unanimously adopted. The Examination Committee was requested to formulate resolutions regarding what the Association considers the undue prominence given to mathematics in the examination of teachers; also, that the approval of the majority of the members of the Central Committee should be required in the case of each examination paper, and that candidates who fail in only one of the examination groups should be re-examined only in the groups in which they failed. Mr. George Baird, as chairman of Committee on Promotion Examination, reported fully the attempt made to obtain the co-operation of the East Huron Teachers' Association, in order to have a uniform system of promotion throughout the county. On motion, a vote of thanks was given to the members of committee, and their expenses were ordered to be paid. *Resolved*, That the Committee on Promotion Examinations be re-appointed, to act in conjunction with any committee that may be appointed by East Huron Association. The Association then adjourned, to meet in Essex sometime in January.