

the salt is a layer of sandstone from two to eight feet thick, and when this is torn away the salt appears like a huge snowdrift. How deep it is has not yet been ascertained, but a single blast of giant powder will blow out

tons of it. Under the cap rock have been discovered charred wood and charcoal, and matting made of cedar bark, which the salt has preserved, evidently the camp of prehistoric man.—*The School Journal.*

EDITORIAL NOTES.

THE Education Committee of the Middlesex County Council will memorialize the Minister of Education to revise the Fourth Reader so that it may contain lessons calculated to develop a taste for reading such scientific subjects as are of benefit to farmers, and that the fifth form in the Public Schools and the lower form in the Collegiate Institutes be amended so as to be better adapted for the education of farmers' sons.

FOR years the question of the most suitable time for holding the annual meeting of the Ontario Teachers' Association has been considered in annual convention. The fact that the teachers of science and modern languages in high schools have held meetings during the Christmas holidays indicates the course which, in the opinion of these masters, the High School Section of the Association should take. Reasons even more cogent than the above can easily be urged for having meetings during the Christmas holidays; we are not therefore surprised to learn that there is to be a meeting of all High School masters on some days in the Christmas holidays. We hope all the masters of our secondary schools and professors in Colleges will bear in mind the meeting at Christmas and that there will be a profitable and influential gathering of our educational workers.

HIGH SCHOOL.

THE change in the mode of conducting the training of High School assistant masters and first class teachers, introduced this autumn term by the Education Department, is an important one, and we hope will lead to very valuable results. Ontario should be in alignment with the most advanced and cultured people in regard at least to educational advantages. We hope to be able to refer to this change in subsequent numbers of this magazine.

It is to be regretted that the Education Department in doing a good thing did not do it graciously. For years the public and the profession have had cause to complain of the short notice given by the Minister of Education of changes in school programmes and other matters affecting our schools and teachers.

But, it seems that the department officials—who are to blame, we know not—have no idea of the inconvenience and loss inflicted upon schools, masters, and students by not giving ordinary timely notice of changes such as the one to which we are now referring. We know of more than one graduate who has suffered pecuniary loss which, as a rule, our young graduates can very ill afford, by having to cancel engagements, made in ignorance of the change in the programme for the training of High School teachers, of which such short notice was given. Surely it is not unreasonable for all affected by such