

"the home life, the development of cities, institutions and customs, and of existing governments." The books prescribed are the following: *Social Progress in Contemporary Europe*, by Frederic Austin Ogg, Ph. D.; *Mornings With Masters of Art* (125 illustrations), by H. H. Powers, Ph. D.; *The Spirit of French Letters*, by Mabel S. C. Smith, A. M., and *Home Life in Germany*, by Mrs. Alfred Sidgwick. The articles to be read in the magazine are called: *European Rulers: Their Modern Significance*; and, *A Reading Journey in Paris*.

This course sounds attractive to readers who are planning a visit to Europe, and extra reading, especially for intending travellers, is suggested in the magazine.

The four books and the magazine for one year cost five dollars, with postage in addition. A post-card sent to "Chautauqua Institution, Chautauqua, New York," will promptly bring detailed information.

The National Home-Reading Union of England, is doing a very useful work, and it is much to be desired that teachers and students in Canada would take advantage of the assistance it offers. It was founded in 1889, "for the purpose of guiding readers in the use of books and of directing self-education."

In return for a very small fee, the N. H. R. U. offers:

1. Courses of reading, with select lists of books on many subjects.
2. A magazine published monthly, nine times a year, containing articles about, with notes and questions on, the books and their authors.
3. Companionships in systematic reading by membership in a circle.
4. Tutorial help by correspondence.

The work is carried on in four different sections, to meet the varying needs of different classes of readers. There are (a) General courses. (b) Special courses. (c) Introductory course. (d) Young people's section.

Each of these sections has its own magazine and book list. The books in the book lists are classed as follows: 1. Required books. These are chosen with special regard to cheapness. The articles in the magazines are written with special reference to these books.

2. Recommended books. Supplementary to, or illustrating the required books.
3. Reference books. Usually available in public libraries.

The *Introductory Course* has only five magazine numbers in the year, and the reading covers only three subjects: General literature, nature study and social problems. This course is intended for people who have not done much reading and who have little time to give to it. The fee for this course is one shilling, which includes the magazine subscription.

The *General Course* is suitable for those who wish to read on a larger number of subjects. The magazine and book list are designed to be helpful to teachers or those preparing to teach.

The fee is two shillings.

*Special Courses.* These consist of a great variety of subjects in various departments of literature. They are recommended to readers who wish to study two or three subjects in detail. The membership fee is three shillings and sixpence. This fee also covers a book-list and a series of articles on a supplementary course, to be selected from a long and varied list.

*Young People's Section.* This is one of the most important branches of the work of the N. H. R. U. It is intended for boys and girls up to the age of fifteen or sixteen. It has its own magazine and its own book list, and the fee is one shilling and sixpence. To encourage the formation of reading circles among school children, a special arrangement has been made, by which circles may be formed in this section upon the payment of one fee by the teacher. Hundreds of such circles have been formed in England, and such Reading Circles are allowed to take the place of an ordinary reading class. The books prescribed by the Union introduce the children to the best authors and the helps given arouse their interest. They are thus prepared to leave school with some taste for good reading, and some discrimination in the choice of books. How useful such a plan would be in many Canadian schools, especially in the country. Even where it is not found practicable to form a circle, the book-list and the magazine would be a great help to any teacher who wants to influence and direct his pupils' home-reading, or to stimulate their interest in school-subjects. Special leaflets on the work of the Union in schools may be had upon application.

The tutorial helps afforded by the organization should be noticed. Members are at liberty to seek advice as to reading; to apply for explanations of difficulties; and to send for criticism answers to the