

We direct attention to the following admirable regulations for holding Competitive Examinations, prepared by Henry L. Slack, Esq., Inspector of Public Schools in the County of Lanark :—

REGULATIONS FOR HOLDING COMPETITIVE EXAMINATIONS.

1. In each municipality where a grant of money has been made for the purpose, an Examination will be held in some central place, to which will be admitted delegates from all the Schools of said municipality.

2. All pupils of Union Sections shall attend the Examination in the municipality in which their school-house is situated—provided said municipality has made a grant: provided, nevertheless, that if one portion of said Union Section lies within a municipality which has not made a grant, the children of that portion will not be allowed to compete.

3. Every Teacher shall be limited to TWELVE pupils—three only to be taken out of each of the 2nd, 3rd, 4th, and 5th Classes; and said pupils must have been in attendance at school for at least Forty Days of the present year.

4. No pupil examined at any Competitive Examinations last year will be allowed to compete again in the same class.

5. Every Teacher will be required to furnish to the County Inspector, on the First July, a certified list of intending competitors, specifying their names, ages, attendance at school for the present year, and the classes in which they are respectively to compete.

6. There shall be THREE Examiners at each examination, one of whom shall be the County Inspector, and the other two, persons selected by him for the purpose.

7. The Examination will be conducted in accordance with the "Programme of Studies" authorized by the Council of Public Instruction, and now in use in the Public Schools of this Province.

8. The Examination, as far as practicable, shall be conducted in writing.

9. It shall be considered as contrary to the spirit of these regulations, and to just and fair competition, that any Teacher should devote *extra time in school* to the preparation of candidates for examination.

10. The examinations will be held in the early part of July, at such time as shall be decided upon by the Inspector.

11. Each Teacher shall contribute the sum of *Fifty Cents*, to be collected from the competitors or otherwise, to pay expenses incurred; such sums to be forwarded to the Inspector on the First of July, together with the return of the pupils.

MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION.

Report of the proceedings at a meeting of the Council of Public Instruction, held June 12, 1874. Published as authorized by law.

No. 371.]

COUNCIL ROOM,
Education Office, 12th June, 1874.

The Council met pursuant to notice, at three o'clock p.m., the Very Reverend H. J. Grasett, B.D., in the Chair.

Present:—The Chairman,
The Chief Superintendent of Education,
James MacLennan, Esq., Q.C.

1. The following communications were laid before the Council:—

8041. From Wm. McCabe, Esquire, respecting the minutes of last meeting.

7928. From the same, giving notice of motion that it is expedient that the catalogue of library books now in course of publication be revised.

7664. From the Principal of the Normal School, reporting temporary arrangements for teaching in the Model School.

7743, 7768, 7853. From Candidates applying for the appointment in the Model School.

8040. From the Principal of the Normal School, on the same subject.

8071. From the same, on the same subject.

8039. From the same, with a report of the standing of the students.

8669. From the same, with a supplementary list.

7780½. From the Committee on Library and Prize Books, being their first report.

10010. From the Inspector of the County of Perth, respecting teachers' institutes, and reply.

9956. From the Inspector of the County of Waterloo, on the same subject, and reply.

12164. From the Inspector of South Grey, on the same subject, and reply.

7710, 12929. From the Inspector of Oxford, on the same subject.
13685. From the Inspector of the County of Peterborough, on the same subject.

7634. From the Inspector of the County of Hastings, North, on the same subject.

7930. From Chief Superintendent of Education, being a list of books for approval for the Library and Prize Catalogues.

Also, the forms issued respecting the voting for Members of the Council.

2. The following questions (7960) were put by Mr. MacLennan, and were replied to by the Chief Superintendent, as below stated :—

(1.) Whether at any time since the month of July, 1871, Dr. Sangster has been engaged or employed, in any manner, or in any capacity, in connection with education or schools in this Province, with the sanction of the Council, or of the Chief Superintendent, or of the Education Department, or of any officer thereof? and if so, what are the particulars?

Answer.—None whatever.

(2.) Whether, during any part of the time above mentioned, Dr. Sangster has taken any part in any work or duty of an educational kind, with such sanction, or recognition as above, or whether any relation has existed between him and the Education Department? and if so, what are the particulars?

Answer.—None whatever.

(3.) Whether the meetings of teachers, called Institutes, held in different parts of the country, and presided over by Dr. Sangster, or conducted by him, or any such, have been with any sanction of, or by any arrangement with, the Council or the Chief Superintendent, or the Education Department, or any officer thereof, and whether any expenses in connection with such institutes, or any of them, or of any person attending them, have been paid, or are intended to be paid, out of public funds, or funds over which the Department has any control? and if so, what are the particulars?

Answer.—None whatever.

(4.) Whether any correspondence between Dr. Sangster and the Council, or between Dr. Sangster and the Chief Superintendent, or between him and the Department of Education, or any officer thereof on the subject of the meetings of Teachers or Institutes, above referred to, exists among the records, or on the files of the Department? and if so what is the purport of such correspondence?

Answer.—None whatever.

(5.) Whether there is any such correspondence with any person or persons other than Dr. Sangster? and if so to what effect?

Answer.—The only correspondence having reference to Teachers' Meetings or Institutes, has had relation to Teachers taking Friday to attend such meetings or institutes, as one of the five teaching days per annum allowed them according to law, to visit other schools, and confer with other teachers on the subjects of school organization, discipline, and teaching. Most of the Inspectors have never corresponded with me on anything connected with holding teachers' meetings or institutes, but have with the teachers exercised their own discretion; but in some instances the County Inspectors being doubtful of their own authority on the subject, have consulted me, and I have in every instance stated my assent to any arrangement they might think proper to make, in order to meet the wishes of the teachers by allowing them to close their schools on a Friday of their proposed teachers' meeting or institute, as one of the five days allowed them for mutual improvement. The correspondence which I lay before the Council, shows that the teachers' meetings or institutes, held during the year 1873, presided over by Dr. Sangster, are voluntary meetings of teachers, similar to those which have been held in various counties during many years past, and with the appointment or management, or proceedings of which I have not interfered—recognizing the rights of teachers to hold such meetings, though, in some instances, in past years, their proceedings have been anything but friendly to myself. To these meetings held during the year 1873, and presided over by Dr. Sangster, by local invitation, I have referred in my last Annual Report, page 79, laid before, and printed by order of the Legislative Assembly.

(Signed) E. RYERSON.

June 12th, 1874.

3. Ordered, That Mr. Morris J. Fletcher be appointed as Third Assistant Master in the Boys' Model School.

4. On motion of Mr. MacLennan, seconded by the Chief Superintendent, the first report of the Committee on Library and Prize books was adopted, and

Ordered, That Mr. Campbell be informed of the approval of the books recommended.

5. On motion of Mr. MacLennan, seconded by the Chief Superintendent,

Ordered, That the names and prices of the books thus sanctioned, be published in the next number of the *Journal of Education*, in