

The High School, Oshawa, seems to be making good progress. Some of the pupils now in attendance are those who secured honors at the University and have returned to do first year work.

The new High School building in St. Thomas was opened on September 6th, with appropriate ceremonies. There are 180 pupils in attendance.

Thirty-four pupils passed the examination for admission to High Schools from the class of Mr. W. J. Carson, Head Master of the Model School London.

The average attendance at the Waterdown High School for the past half year was 66.

The trustees of Listowel public schools have decided to introduce the teaching of vocal music into the schools.

Brantford has twenty-eight teachers, of whom twenty-five are females and three males. It expended \$14,609 for school purposes last year.

The Thorold Mechanics' Institute is to open its reading room and library three nights out of the week during the winter, instead of two as formerly.

The Court of Chancery has decided that the election of school trustees, as well for the Common Schools as the Roman Catholic Separate Schools, must be held by the same returning officer and at the same time and place as the municipal councillors are chosen.

Queen's College, Kingston, has decided to accept the Intermediate High School examination, except that all candidates must pass an additional examination in classics, and the regular work of the college must be taken by all candidates for honors.

QUEBEC.

The Protestant Commissioners of Quebec opened their new school on St. Augustine Street in September, under the charge of Mr. Ferguson. The school is of brick with stone front, and will, when finished, cost \$10,000. It will be a mixed school, but the boys and girls will be taught separately, in accordance with the invariable custom of Quebec.

The school tax on the Protestant Panel (as it is called) of tax payers is this year two cents per 100 on the rental of property—certainly not a very heavy school tax for a city.

The examination of candidates for admission to the study of Medicine was held in Laval University on Thursday and Friday, the 19th and 20th of September. Sixteen candidates only presented themselves. The character of the examination has been materially changed since the Council of the Board of Physicians fixed a definite amount of work on which candidates would have to be examined. The first result of this change seems to have been a decline in the number of applicants for admission.

At the opening of the present session of Laval University the honorary degree of LL.D. was conferred on his Excellency the Governor General, before a brilliant assemblage of the University authorities and of the citizens of Quebec.

The Governor General has requested the photographs of the successful candidates for the medals granted for competition in the various institutions of learning—a request which has gratified greatly those more immediately concerned.

Mr. N. Robertson, from Ontario, has been appointed English master in the Quebec High School.

The most notable feature in connection with education in the Province of Quebec is the apathy of the inhabitants in regard to that subject. Among the French Canadians education is considered a matter which belongs peculiarly to the Church. The laity take no interest in it, believing it well cared for. Among Anglo-Canadians commerce is the all-important interest. No class of young men deem it worth while to think of teaching in Quebec. Indeed if they did the openings are so few that they would probably be disappointed in gaining a situation, and the remuneration is so small that none but those who are unfit to teach would for a moment think of following teaching as a profession. From the notices in the press one would hardly know that any schools existed at all. The duty of the press apparently is confined to the advertisement of the time of school opening. For all practical purposes, and for intercommunication between teachers, the journals of education are useless. And yet one would suppose that the question of education was a vital question for the English minority, whose weight and influence must to a very considerable extent depend upon the possession of those qualities which a thorough education is supposed to give.

NEW BRUNSWICK.

Perhaps the chief interest in educational matters this year centres in the establishment and working of the Teachers' Institutes for the several Counties, and the Educational Institute for the Province. In the August number of this JOURNAL, the Regulations relating to the former were given somewhat fully, one portion, however—that setting forth the object of these Institutes—being rendered almost unintelligible by the transposition of a line in the official "Manual." The correct reading is as follows:—"A Teachers' Institute shall be formed for such Inspectorial District, the exclusive object of which shall be to promote the efficient operation of the means contemplated by the Law and Regulations of the Board of Education for the conduct of all work pertaining to Teachers of Schools."

In nearly every County in the Province an Institute has been organized, and the work done at the first meeting was in every case of a gratifying character, giving promise of most satisfactory results in the future development of the system thus happily inaugurated.

An outline of the proceedings of the St. John Teachers' Institute will serve as a specimen of all the rest. The meeting took place in the hall of the new Victoria School, then recently completed and handed over to the Trustees, to take the place of the noble edifice of similar form and dimensions which stood on the same site before the great fire. About two hundred teachers were present. After a few words of welcome from John Boyd, Esq., Chairman of the St. John School Board,—and introductory remarks by E. H. Duval, Esq., Inspector for the County (since deceased),—Dr. Rand, the Chief Superintendent, delivered an address upon some of the duties, difficulties and dangers of the teaching profession, and upon the aims and objects of the Institute as related to them. Election of officers and other routine business followed Dr. Rand's address. Dr. Coster, Principal of St. John Grammar School, was elected President. There were six sessions, occupying two days. Papers were read on the following subjects:—"The best means of securing regularity and punctuality at school," by Mr. John Montgomery; "School Management," by Mr. O'Reilly; "Reading," by Mr. John March; "How to teach Writing," by Mr. W. Parlee; "The Natural Sciences and their connection with Common School Education," by G. U. Hay. Discussion followed the reading of each paper. There were also discussions, opened by oral addresses, on "Home Lessons," "Spelling," "Spelling Reform," and the "Higher Education of Women." A specimen lesson in Arithmetic was given by Mr. Philip Coss, A.B. At the closing session there were entertaining readings by Miss Denham, Miss Rutherford and Mr. John Boyd.

The "Educational Institute" to which reference is made above, is intended to afford a higher plane for "the professional instruction and culture of its members, and the discussion of educational questions." It also makes an organic nexus between the different branches of the school service, bringing together in an associated capacity the Chief Superintendent and the President of the Provincial University, who are members of the Board of Education, the Provincial Examiners, School Inspectors and Trustees, with Teachers of every grade from the Principals of the Normal, Grammar and High Schools to the humblest holder of a Third Class license.

The leading provisions of the Regulation touching the Educational Institution are as follows:—

1. The Chief Superintendent of Education, the President of the University, the Principal of the Normal School, and the Examiners for Teachers' licenses, are members *ex-officio*. Other school officers not being teachers, and teachers who are members of a Teachers' Institute, may become members by enrolment and payment of such annual fee as the Educational Institute may determine, not to exceed one dollar.

2. There is an Executive Committee, composed of the *ex-officio* members with an equal number elected annually by the Institute from among its other members. This Committee fixes the time for the meeting of the Institute, and has the sole right to determine the programme of exercises, and to recommend or exclude questions for discussion. The funds of the Institute are also placed under the control of the Executive Committee, which appoints its own Secretary-Treasurer.

3. The Chief Superintendent presides at the meetings both of the Institute and of the Executive Committee,—the President of the University or other member of the Committee taking the Chair in his absence or at his request.