

in which Principal Hicks and Chancellor Heneker took part. Before the close of this session, the Hon. W. W. Lynch, Solicitor-General, was cordially invited to address the meeting, which he did in a few appropriate well-chosen words, stating that some years ago he had been one of their number as a teacher, that he had ever taken and would continue to take a very great interest in everything pertaining to the education of the young, and endeavoring to raise the pay and social standing of the teacher. At the afternoon session Miss Minkler read a paper on "Teaching in the Country," in which she drew particular attention to the uncomfortable state of most of the country school rooms. Dr. Robins also read a very able paper on "The Relation of the State to Higher Education." He divided the subject into the following twelve different propositions:—

1. The good of the commonwealth alone justifies the interference of the State with education.

2. It is for the good of the commonwealth that such an education as every boy and girl of twelve or fourteen years should have, be within the reach of every child within the State.

3. Two classes within the State must now be distinguished—those who toil and those who direct the toilers.

4. Those who direct the toilers are either those who possess extraordinary natural ability, or those who have inherited an assured possession.

5. It is not for the good of the commonwealth that the school life of the masses should be much prolonged, for while nature is yet plastic they must acquire the manual dexterity and the habits of patient persevering labor, which are essential to their happiness and their success.

6. It is for the good of the commonwealth that the leader of society should have a more liberal, more thorough culture, and so a much more prolonged course of education. This is what is meant by "higher education" in my lecture.

7. In such an education only the few can participate—want of talent, want of time, want of means forbid it.

8. Every child has an equal right to share in the advantages of the common education provided by the State, but it is not just that the State should make public provision to secure for a class advantages that cannot be shared by all.

9. The child of the rich has a just claim that the State shall expend on his education as much as on that of the child of the poor man, but no more.

10. Whatsoever, therefore, the education of the child of the rich man, whether from its superior character or from its longer duration, costs more than the education of the poor man, must in justice be borne by the rich man himself.

11. But when the child of the poor man gives evidence of character and intellect so superior that he will hereafter be a leader of men, it is for the good of the commonwealth to see that he shall have, at the public cost if necessary, an education that shall soften his manners and enoble his mind.

Lastly. It is the interest of the State, then, to establish and maintain in centres of population a system of superior schools, subsidized by the State funds to the same extent as the elementary schools, but mainly supported by fees, open to all who pay the cost, and at the cost of the State to such as give evidence of extraordinary talent.

The matter was further discussed by Dr. Sullivan and Dr. Dawson. The Rev. Mr. Rexford, M.A., read a paper on "The Examination of Teachers," deprecating the present system of examination by local boards as inefficient, and not giving uniform results. This important question was further taken up by Principal Dawson, Chancellor Heneker, Inspector McLachlin, and Dr. Howe, and discussed at some length.

On motion of Rev. Mr. Rexford, seconded by Dr. Robins, the following resolution was put to the Convention and carried: "That the present system of examination for teachers is unsatisfactory, and an immediate change is necessary for the well-being of our schools, and that this unsatisfactory state of things would be removed and the well-being of our schools be ameliorated by the appointment of a central examining board with a higher standard of education."

The Rev. Canon Norman read a most interesting and instructive paper on "The Higher Education of Women." Dr. Stevenson delivered a lengthy address on "The Education of the will in relation to the intellect." He was followed by the president, Rev. Principal MacVicar, LL.D., who took as his theme, "Moral Education; its Province and its Method," dwelling specially on the following points:—

1. The standard of right, its nature and basis.

2. Right and wrong as manifested qualities of actions.

3. Conscience, or the faculty which recognizes right and wrong.

4. Freedom of the will, motives, and the cultivation of virtue in relation to conscience.

5. The fundamental relations of man to God.

6. What a man owes to himself—The care of his health; personal culture, mental, moral and spiritual; the formation of right habits, physical, mental and moral; the care of his reputation; the securing of personal enjoyment or happiness consistently with the good of others; the conservation of his rights of property, contract, citizenship, &c.

7. What a man owes to his fellow-men, considering society in three forms: the family, with its privileges, rules and obligations; the state or nation, with its constitution, laws, rights and duties; and the community of nations, involving international relations and laws.

8. Casuistry, or the determination of cases of doubtful propriety in the light of law and circumstances.

Mr. E. W. Arthy, principal of the Preparatory High School, Montreal, read a paper on "How to teach Latin;" Miss Aimes gave a paper entitled "A plea for country teachers," the Rev. Mr. Black on "The Education of the Senses," Dr. Miles on Statistics, as to the measures taken by the Provincial government to supply superannuated teachers with pensions. Dr. Kemp read a paper on "Ladies' Colleges," and Prof. Gardner one on "Hygiene."

St. Johns, Quebec, was selected as the place of meeting for the next convention. The Rev. Dr. Miles was chosen President, Dr. McGregor, Mr. McIntosh of Granby, and Miss Macdonald of Quebec, Vice-Presidents. Mr. Hicks, who retired after 11 years service as Secretary, was succeeded by the Rev. E. J. Rexford, B.A.; the Treasurer is Mr. Rowell, head master of St. Ann's Street School, vice, Dr. McGregor retired; and the Central Executive Committee are: F. W. Hick, M.A., John McKercher, B.C.L., Dr. Kelley, Messrs. Kneeland and Pearson, Mrs. Fuller, Miss Smith, St. Johns, Miss Minkler, of Granby; Mr. Stevens, of St. Johns, Mr. E. R. Smith, of St. Johns; Inspector Hubbard, Sherbrooke, and the Rev. Mr. Fothergill, Inspector.

A meeting of the Protestant Committee of the Council of Public Instruction was held on the 24th November, at which much important business connected with the Protestant education of the Province was transacted, the details of which will appear in the next issue of the JOURNAL.

MANITOBA.

At the June meeting of the Council of the University of Manitoba, certain resolutions were introduced by Professor Forget Despaties which led to a lengthy and animated discussion, and which were remitted to a special committee. A copy of these resolutions will be found in the July number of the JOURNAL. At the meeting of Council which took place on 2nd Dec. the committee submitted the following report, which, on motion of the Rev. W. C. Pinkham seconded by the Hon. Mr. Justice Dubuc, was unanimously adopted:

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON EXAMINATIONS.

The committee beg respectfully to submit the following recommendations as their report:—

The examiners for each subject shall prepare three sets of papers for that subject. These papers shall, as provided by previous statute, be submitted to the whole body or board of examiners, who shall elect a chairman. The papers, as approved, shall then be remitted to the examiners for the several subjects, who shall prepare the number of copies requisite for the examination. The copies of each paper shall be enclosed by themselves in a sealed envelope, having the subject marked on the outside—all the envelopes being of the same kind. At a meeting of the board of examiners, at a time appointed at their previous meeting, the envelopes shall be handed in and put together in a box. The chairman shall then, in the presence of the board, draw out successively the envelopes containing the papers. The papers for any subject shall be those in the first envelope selected containing papers on that subject. The papers not selected shall remain unopened, in the custody of the chairman, till after the examination. The selected papers shall be kept by the chairman in a locked box, and shall be delivered before each examination to a messenger who shall be appointed by the board of studies. This messenger shall hand them to the presiding examiner. The board of studies shall furnish to this second meeting of examiners the programme of the several examinations. The board of examiners shall for each ex-