

paper was read by Mr. J. T. Slater, on teaching writing to senior classes. Miss A. Freeman read a paper entitled "How to direct the private reading of scholars." The paper was very interesting, and contained a good many useful hints. The Association decided to publish it, as it would prove a valuable addition to what has already been written on the subject. During the afternoon session Mr. J. L. Hughes gave an address on "Object Lessons," illustrating the subject by means of leaves, and pointing out the different kinds of veins on leaves from different classes of trees. Mr. J. A. Wismer spoke on the teaching of hygiene, and illustrated his remarks by a class of boys who were present. Mr. J. Boddy read a paper on the monthly reports to the Inspector. He claimed that in consequence of the ambiguous way in which returns were asked for, great injustice was frequently done to schools. The returns from the different schools, which were compared one with the other, were very often made up in altogether different manners. There was no generally recognized rule for computing the average attendance and the percentages. After discussing the various methods of calculating the attendance of scholars, the meeting adjourned for the day.

The closing meeting of the Toronto Teachers' Association Semi-annual Convention was held on Saturday morning in the school-house of Carlton Street Methodist Church. Mr. S. McAllister, President, occupied the chair. A motion was made by Mr. J. L. Hughes, and carried, that during the latter half of the present year meetings be held of teachers of the different grades in the several schools for the purpose of observing the practical working of the school-room, and discussing the best methods practised and their workings in the different grades. The committee to whom was referred the letter from Miss Annie Orchard with regard to temperance instruction in the schools reported that it is advisable in view of the manifest evils of intemperance that special attention should be directed to the subject of scientific temperance in connection with hygiene. They also recommended that if Mrs. Hunt should visit Toronto to lecture on temperance, the Association lend its assistance in making the meeting a success. The committee appointed to consider Mr. Bryant's paper before the Ontario Teachers' Association on the desirability of having a Superintendent of Education and a Council of Public Instruction, reported that it was undesirable to have any change from the present system of having a member of the Cabinet as Minister of Education. Mr. Doane moved the adoption of the report and

spoke in favour of the present system. Mr. Boddy claimed that a necessary consequence of having a Minister of the Crown at the head of the Educational Department was that it was used as a political machine. He moved in amendment to the report, that in the opinion of the Association a Chief Superintendent of Public Instruction would best serve the interests of Education. Mr. Crane seconded the amendment, which was declared lost on being put to the meeting. The report was then adopted. The following officers were elected for the ensuing year:—President, S. McAllister; vice-president, R. W. Doane; secretary-treasurer, R. McCausland. The Executive Committee were elected as follows:—Messrs. J. L. Hughes, W. J. Hendry, Cassidy and McEachren, Miss Williams and Mrs. Arthurs. After passing a vote of thanks to the Trustees of the church for the use of the school-room the meeting adjourned.—*Mail*.

EAST MIDDLESEX.—The meeting opened on Saturday morning, March 1st, at ten o'clock, President Dearness in the chair. There were over eighty teachers present. The Secretary read a communication from Miss A. Orchard, Secretary of the Women's Christian Temperance Union of Ontario, memorializing the Association to co-operate with them in urging the introduction of scientific temperance instruction into the public schools of the Province. After some remarks in praise of the movement, Mr. McQueen moved, seconded by Mr. N. Jarvis, that the Secretary be instructed to reply, expressing the sympathy of this Association in the said work, and informing them that in this inspectorate temperance and hygiene have been placed on the curriculum of studies in the public schools and are taught in the majority of them. Carried. Mr. Jarvis gave an illustrative and amusing address on "Veneering in Teaching." He would divide the subject into two classes, legitimate and illegitimate. He illustrated the latter, and applied it to teaching. He thought it wrong to cripple the minds of youth by storing them with useless knowledge for the purpose of making a show. It was very hard to tell when a teacher was "veneering," but if the teacher really knew the difference between instruction and education he could gradually draw out the mind in accordance with nature. Mr. Smith took up the subject of "Literature." He would cultivate an insatiate desire to know. He would endeavour to have pupils learn the author from his work. Reproduction was of great value. The early introduction of literature would decrease the labour in other subjects, as it, correctly taught, would in-