

To the observer of national life the cigarette craze in Australia is an indication of ephemeral character, which, if not remedied by firm authority, will eventually stultify the race morally, mental and physically.—*Australian Star*.

MANUAL TRAINING—QUEBEC.

In the Province of Quebec Manual Training Schools in connection with the Macdonald Fund were opened in September last at Knowlton (Brome), and Waterloo (Shelford). Another is to be opened after the Christmas vacation at Bedford (Missisquoi).

A room has been specially prepared and equipped at the Academy in each of these places. The room at Knowlton accommodates 22 pupils, that at Waterloo 15, while the one at Bedford will accommodate 20.

All the young men and boys of the Academy and Model grades attend, and those boys of the Elementary School who are over nine years of age.

Opportunity has been afforded for addresses on Manual Training at a number of Teachers' Institutes, and teachers and members of the public present have shown a ready appreciation of the educational value of the work, and expressed strong approval of its introduction.

—*Lindley H. Bennett, Supt. P. Q.*

The Provincial Secretary has asked Dr. J. G. Hodgins, of Toronto, and Prof. Mills, of the Agricultural College, Guelph, to investigate the charges made in a pamphlet written by Mr. W. A. Radcliffe, of Port Hope, and in a memorandum sent to the head of the department by Mr. A. W. Beale, of Peterboro', reflecting upon the management of the Ontario Institution for the Blind, Brantford. Mr. Radcliffe and

Mr. Beale have been notified that an investigation has been granted, and that it will commence at Brantford on 27th inst. The department will pay the travelling expenses of the pupils mentioned by these gentlemen as being witnesses, necessary to substantiate their allegations. The two commissioners will report the result of their investigation to the department at an early date, together with such suggestions for the improvement of the curriculum as they may feel called upon to make. Dr. Chamberlain, Inspector of Charities and Prisons, is associated with Dr. Hodgins and Prof. Mills in the enquiry.

Morrin College, Quebec, has decided not to close its doors but to provide a course for day and evening classes in classics, modern languages, English language and literature, mathematics and elocution. The instruction provided will be in advance of that given in High Schools and Academies, and under such accomplished scholars and teachers as Rev. Dr. Macrae, Dr. Wm. Crocket and others of the staff, excellent work in the higher education should be accomplished.

The following schools have held their Annual Commencement during last month:

Collegiate Institute, Guelph;
Jamieson Avenue Coll. Institute, Toronto;

Harbord st. Coll. Inst., Toronto;
High School, Arthur.

It is gratifying to notice the increased interest taken by the public in their Secondary Schools.

Dr. D. P. McLeod, Chief Superintendent of Education, P. E. Island, it is reported, intends resigning his position to engage in business at Sydney, Cape Breton.