

VI. Departmental Notices.

HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAMME, INTERIM COMMITTEE.

The Executive Committee of the High School Section of the Ontario Teachers' Association recently passed the following resolution:

"That in the opinion of this Committee, the recent action of the Interim Committee of the Council of Public Instruction, in adopting the revised Programme for High Schools, when so few members were present, and particularly in the absence of their representative, was inexpedient and unsound in principle."

This resolution is both misleading and unfair. The Interim Committee had full power to adopt the programme, which had been carefully prepared and revised by the High School Inspectors under the direction of the Regulations Committee of the Council of Public Instruction.

The details of the plan of "Payment by Results," as recommended by the Inspectors, and on which the whole programme is based, were unanimously adopted at a very full meeting of the Council on the nineteenth day of May last, thirteen members having been present on the occasion. The programme itself in its general features was also approved at the above date.

It was also some months ago approved as a whole by the "Regulations Committee" of the Council with the exception of one or two matters of detail, respecting which the Committee desired the Inspectors to be again consulted. This was done; and the programme came back from the Inspectors in its present shape. It was then formally adopted, without change, by the Interim Committee, under the authority of the High School Act, and of the Regulations of the Council contained in its minutes of the first and third days of September, one thousand eight hundred and seventy-four, as published in the *Journal of Education*. Its early adoption has been the more necessary, as the scheme of apportionment on which the programme is based had been sanctioned last May, and was designed to come into force in one thousand eight hundred and seventy-six. It was therefore desirable that no further time should be lost in giving effect to the entire scheme of High School reform.

The absence of the High School representative from the Interim Committee was his own act. He and the other Toronto members were duly notified of the meeting, and were informed that the programme (a copy of which was sent to them) would be presented for adoption. To defer action under the circumstances, when a legal quorum of the Council itself was present, would indeed have been "inexpedient and unsound in principle."

By reference to the first page of this *Journal*, it will be seen that His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor in Council has approved of the Programme and Regulations.

AUTHORIZED TEXT-BOOKS.—SPECIAL NOTICE.

In reply to inquiries on the subject, we desire to say that no books have been struck off the authorized list of text-books, except the following:—

Peck Ganot's Natural Philosophy.
Davidson's Animal Kingdom.
Collier's English Literature.

The Geographical text-books are undergoing revision, but no change is yet authorized in that subject, or in the French.

The list of new books authorized for Public and High Schools will be found in the *Journal of Education* for May and September, 1875, pages 69 and 144. New lists will be furnished by the Department on application.

It is not intended to enforce the change of text-books either in High or Public Schools during the first year, or without the consent of the Trustees and of the Inspectors.

It will thus be seen that, with the exception of the three books named above, the same series of text-books prescribed or authorized for use in the Schools have been continued; and that even in the case of the additional books which have been

authorized (not prescribed) none of them can be introduced into any School except *with the concurrence of the Trustees and of the Inspector*. Teachers, therefore, will have to act very prudently in introducing even the newly authorized books in any School. No unauthorised book can, under any circumstances, be introduced by a teacher.

Inspectors are specially required by law (clause ten (a) section one hundred and twelfth):

"To prevent the use of unauthorised, and to recommend the use of authorised books in each School."

SCHOOL CENSUS OF 1875 THE BASIS OF APPORTIONMENT IN 1876.

As the School Census of 1875, which the School Trustees are required by law to take, will likely be the basis of the Legislative School apportionment of 1876, it is most important that the Inspectors should see that it is accurately taken in every School Section, incorporated village, town, and city.

TRUSTEES' SUPPLEMENTARY RETURNS.

1. The Supplementary Return relating to blind persons in Ontario, accompanying the Blank Forms for 1875, which were recently sent to the Inspectors, is intended to be forwarded by them to the Trustees, in order that the fullest information on this subject may be obtained. When returned to the Inspector by the Trustees, they should be (such as are filled up only) transmitted to J. Howard Hunter, Esq., M.A., Principal of the Blind Asylum, Brantford. City, Town and Village Boards of School Trustees, who will receive their Forms at the close of the year, are requested to do likewise.

2. The Supplementary Return relating to the School Census and School attendance, also sent to the Inspectors for distribution, should be filled up by the Trustees and Teachers in every particular, and returned to the Inspectors with the report. Inspectors will please see that these returns are duly made to them, so that the "compulsory education" portion of our School system shall be properly and faithfully carried out.

CORRECTION.—James A. Duncan, reported in December No. of this *Journal* as having received a Second Class A Certificate should have been printed John A. Duncan.

VII. Advertisements.

JUST PUBLISHED.

The Canada Educational Directory and Year Book for 1876.

Edited by ALEXANDER MARLING, LL.B.

CONTAINING an account of the Elementary, Normal and Secondary Schools, and the Universities and Colleges, with their Staffs and their Courses of Study; Separate Schools; Professional Schools; Schools for the Deaf, Dumb and Blind; Reformatory and Industrial Schools, etc.; together with annals of Legislation, and Digests of the existing School Laws and Regulations; the provisions for Religious Instruction, for School Inspecting, and for the Examination of Teachers; Lists of Certificated Teachers, and the Members of Educational Bodies and Authorities; with Miscellaneous School Statistics for Ontario, Quebec, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island, British Columbia and Manitoba.

25 Wellington Street, Toronto.

HUNTER, ROSE & CO., Publishers.

SCHOOL HOUSE ARCHITECTURE.

In the Press, the Second Edition (revised and greatly improved) of

THE SCHOOL HOUSE:

Its Architecture, External and Internal Arrangements, with numerous illustrations. Edited by Dr. HODGINS, Deputy Superintendent of Education.

47 Front Street, Toronto.

GOPP, CLARK & CO.