

societies. These could be organized in every county and graded school, and would accomplish much more for the development of independent thinking among the students than the present method. In such organizations let all the officers be selected from the students. Let the teacher be a member of the organization, with the same privileges as the other members. Let the pupils in every instance elect the officers. Expect the president to keep order and to be posted in regard to parliamentary rules. Require all the pupils to become members. Encourage originality in the exercises and discussions of business pertaining to the society. Hold the sessions Friday afternoon or any convenient time. Those who adopt the plan will find it far better than the present system of rhetorical.

—The *Ohio Educational Monthly* contains some common-sense remarks upon educational journalism :

The great difference in the qualifications of teachers is, no doubt, the cause of the many attempts to establish school journals to meet their varied wants. Every attempt has its influence. No school journal that has ever been started has been so weak that it has not been worth its subscription price to some of its readers. The saddest thing in school journalism is the fact that the journals are so short-lived. Some one has said that the average age of school periodicals is about three and one half years. In view of this lamentable fact we are compelled to exclaim mentally when a new educational or teachers' journal comes to our table, "BORN TO DIE!" This sad exclamation applies to the beautifully printed, vigorous, and good, as well as to the poorly-printed and feebly good.

—We call attention to the article by Mr. Richard Lewis, on Mark Antony's Oration, in the Practical Department. As an analytical and elocutionary study it will be of great value to teachers of Fifth Book classes and to those preparing for examination. It will be followed by others of a similar character.

—We take much pleasure in announcing that Mr. W. J. Gage, of the firm of W. J. Gage & Co., publishers of the CANADA SCHOOL JOURNAL, school text books, and other educational works, has gone to Europe on his marriage tour. His wife was Miss Ina Burnside, youngest daughter of Mr. David Burnside, Fellow of the Educational Institute of Scotland.

—The names of the successful candidates at the Ottawa Normal School, at the recent professional examinations, were accidentally omitted from the present issue. They will appear next month.

Contributions and Correspondence.

PUBLIC SCHOOL TEACHERS IN MANITOBA.

BY THE REV. W. CYPRIAN PINKHAM, CHIEF SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS, MANITOBA.

The number of letters from all parts of the Dominion asking about the examination, salary, and prospects of teachers in Manitoba, is so large that it seems desirable to give such information as may be of use to the members of the profession who are thinking of removing to the Prairie Province.

At the present time the supply of teachers is fully up to the demand; still as year by year the number of schools increase in a very marked manner, and teachers, for various reasons leave the ranks of the profession, openings constantly occur. Trustees can only engage those who are duly authorized by the Board of Education to teach. The Protestant section of the Board of Education has adopted a

regulation under which the Superintendent endorses, at sight, the certificates of good standing obtained in other Provinces of the Dominion, so that immediately on his arrival here a teacher can become qualified for any vacancy in our public schools which he may be able to find. But the endorsement only enables the owner of the certificate to teach until the next general examination of teachers, at which he must present himself. During the past year examinations were held in August and December. The next examination commences on the second Tuesday in August, and will be held at such places as may be decided upon (Winnipeg will certainly be one of such places), of which due notice will be given. Every candidate who proposes to present himself for examination must send in to the Superintendent, at least six weeks before the day appointed for the commencement of the examination, a notice stating the class of certificate for which he is a candidate, and a description of the certificate he holds, if any; together with a certificate of good moral character, from some clergyman or Justice of the Peace.

There are three classes of certificates, and two grades in each class. First class certificates are valid during the pleasure of the Board. Candidates in this class must furnish satisfactory proof of having taught (anywhere) for three years. Second class certificates are valid, grade A for four years, grade B for three years from the date of issue. Candidates must furnish proof of having taught for at least one year. Third class certificates are valid, grade A for two years, grade B for one year from the date of issue. To be eligible for examination in this class, the candidate, if a female, must be sixteen years of age, and if a male eighteen years of age. In order to obtain certificates, candidates in all three classes must obtain, for grade A, 67 per cent. of the total marks on all the subjects of examination in the class, and 40 per cent. out of the maximum of marks awarded on each subject; and for grade B, 40 per cent. of total marks, and 25 per cent. of marks awarded on each subject.

Candidates of all classes are examined in Reading, Spelling, Writing, Composition, English Grammar, Geography, English and Canadian History, School organization and management, and Arithmetic, the questions for third class candidates being as a rule less difficult than those for second and first. The additional subjects in the second class are Book-keeping, Algebra (to the end of Simple Equations), and Euclid (books I. and II.); and those in the first are Book-keeping, Algebra (Colenso's part 1st, or corresponding part in Todhunter's or Loudon's), Euclid (books I, II, III, IV, VI, with definitions of book V.), Mensuration, Natural Philosophy, Physiology, Botany, Chemistry, and English Literature.

It will be seen that the present programme does not embrace as many subjects as teachers in Ontario, for instance, are examined in. Yet the result of our examinations show that the present standard is not unworthy of being compared with that of other older Provinces.

The following gentlemen constitute the present Board of Examiners, from whom candidates cannot fail to get ample justice, viz: Rev. James Robertson (Chairman), the Superintendent, Secretary, Rev. Prof. Bryce, M. A., Prof. Hart, M. A., Canon O'Meara, M. A., J. F. German, M. A., E. Morrow, M. A., A. Campbell, B. A., S. P. Matheson (Deputy Warden St. John's College), S. Pritchard, Prof. R. Bourne, M. A., S. C. Biggs, B. A., A. C. Killam, B. A., W. Black, B. A., A. M. Sutherland, B. A., and J. H. Bell.

The salaries of the teachers during the past year ranged between \$83.33 (the salary paid to the Principal of the city school) and \$25 per month. The average salary in rural districts is \$400 per annum. It is often difficult to get good accommodation; not unfrequently the teachers in the newer districts of the Province have to walk a pretty long distance; but circumstances are not harder for teachers than they are for clergymen and others, yet those who