Educational

Devoted to Advanced Methods of Education and General Culture.

PUBLISHED MONTHLY.

ST. JOHN, N. B., NOVEMBER, 1907.

\$1.00 PER YEAR.

U. HAY, Editor for New Brunswick.

McKAY, Editor for Nova Scotia.

THE EDUCATIONAL REVIEW. Office, 31 Leinster Street, St. John, N. B.

PRINTED BY BARNES & Co., St. John, N. B.,

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THE EDUCATIONAL REVIEW is published on the first of each month, except July. Subscription price, one dollar a year; single numbers, ten cents.

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The number accompanying each address tells to what date the subscription is paid. Thus "240' shows that the subscription is paid to May 31, 1907.

Address all correspondence to THE EDUCATIONAL REVIEW, St. John, N. B.

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Reference is made in our advertising columns to Augsburg's drawing books, to courses of manual training in the normal school, and other matters of interest to teachers.

Considerable space is given up in this number to the reports of local teachers' institutes. Although these reports are mere outlines, they serve to show what our teachers are thinking about and what they are doing. The fact that hundreds of schools have been vacant and many thousands of children taking holiday during the past month while their teachers have been absent at institutes serves to direct the attention of the parent and rate-payer to them, and the enquiry is often heard, What benefit are these institutes to the schools?

No teacher really interested in the work of the schools and desirous of improving it can visit an institute without receiving benefit. The reading of papers, the outlines given of the methods of other teachers, the discussion and questioning that seeks a fuller light on these methods, are all helpful. The public meeting where persons of experience give their views earnestly and pleasantly on educational problems are stimulating to parents and teachers. The conversation and exchange of ideas between times at these meetings give the opportunity for those teachers who are shy and retiring to help their fellow-teachers to many practical plans and suggestions. Very often a little coterie of teachers at a boarding house will discuss questions and methods with greater freedom and sometimes with far more effectiveness than is done at the public meetings. The writer has often heard saner and more practical ideas expressed at these private conventicles than on institute platforms, but if such teachers are asked to express themselves in public without restraint they shrink from the task.

A speaker at the Antigonish, N. S., meeting made the suggestion that teachers while at their work during the weeks and months before an institute should make a record of their difficulties and the points in methods in teaching which they wished to have cleared up. This is a good suggestion; and if a committee be appointed at the opening of an institute to arrange these topics in order and present them to the institute at stated times, the results would be beneficial to those who receive least advantage from these gatherings-the diffident and inexperienced teachers. The question-box in some institutes is a plan to the same end; and the columns of the REVIEW are always open to the teacher who needs such help and will ask for it.

The work of the institutes at Antigonish and in Colchester County is of a character which may well enlist the attention of institute leaders in other places. Some of the teaching lessons which the writer heard at Antigonish and the discussions upon them afterwards were such as to appeal directly to inexperienced-and many experienced-teachers. No one could go from a gathering of this kind with-