

The summer meeting of the Rural Science School, Truro, N. S., takes place in July and August as may be seen by the advertisement on another page. The course enables teachers to qualify for practical, scientific instruction and physical training in schools. With a well qualified staff of instructors it is accomplishing an excellent work in giving useful supplementary training to teachers.

A very successful meeting of the Digby and Annapolis Counties Teachers' Institute was held at Middleton, N. S., on Wednesday and Thursday, April 3rd and 4th. About 110 teachers were present. The citizens of Middleton gave a very enjoyable reception to the teachers on Tuesday evening. Three sessions were held on Wednesday and one on Thursday which closed in time for the teachers to reach their homes by the regular trains on that day.

New Brunswick School Report.

The report of Dr. W. S. Carter, Chief Superintendent of New Brunswick schools, shows that the school year ending June 30, 1911, has been the best in point of attendance in the history of the province. There were 68,951 different pupils in the schools for the year. The percentage of attendance for the term ending December 31, 1910 was 69.82. The proportion of population at school for the same term was 1 in 5.4, and the number of teachers employed 1991, 223 males and 1768 females or in the proportion of 1 to 8 (nearly). Salaries show an upward tendency especially of the teachers of the first class. About 43 per cent. of all pupils enrolled are in graded schools—those having two or more teachers, each in charge of a separate department.

Dr. Carter's visits to schools throughout the province, together with his former experience as inspector has given him an adequate knowledge of educational needs and the work of the schools.

He states that no country does more, in accordance with its resources than New Brunswick to provide schools for all its people. He points out, however, that a re-arrangement and better defining of the boundaries of school districts should be made, with a more equable distribution of the rate of taxation. In some districts it is as low as ten or twelve cents on the hundred dollars; in others—often in the same parish—as high as two dollars or

two and one-half dollars on the hundred. He thinks that no district should be permitted to contribute less than fifty cents on the hundred, and that strong districts should help the weak. To equalize taxation and provide better pay for teachers, a return to the old system, when each parish constituted a district, would be of great advantage.

In the work of the schools some improvements are pointedly suggested by Dr. Carter, especially the providing of evening schools for continuation work where a combination of head and hand methods may prevail; some provisions for vacation schools and play grounds; and a more adequate payment of teachers.

These are the outstanding recommendations of the report which contains many features that will repay careful reading, especially the thoughtful suggestions of the inspectors, the reports of the chancellor of the University, the principal of the Normal School, the various Consolidated Schools in the province and the work that is being accomplished in nature-work, manual training and domestic science. Taken in all the report is most satisfactory of the educational progress, of the province.

The Summer School of Science.

There are now fifty-eight scholarships offered for competition in the Summer School of Science which meets at Yarmouth in July. This shows that a practical and very wholesome interest is being taken in the school by its friends.

Professor Horace G. Perry of Acadia University will conduct classes in Zoology, aiming to give students a good general knowledge of the more important biological facts and theories regarding the animal kingdom, and to aid the teacher in selecting work in the subject for the common school grades. An opportunity will be given the more ambitious students to take up the dissection of some of our common types, and directions given for more advanced work if desired. Field work can be pleasantly combined with geology and botany. The fauna of land and water will be studied. Throughout the course special attention will be directed to the recognition, the work and life history of species injurious and beneficial to garden, farm and orchard. Collecting and preserving of specimens will be made an interesting feature of the work.