

Any person requiring suggestions or direction in the study of any one of the above subjects may correspond with the Instructor of that subject or with the President.

#### EXAMINATIONS, CERTIFICATES, PRIZES AND GENERAL ARRANGEMENTS.

Before the close of the school in each year, each Instructor will hold an examination in the subject of his department, and to those who undergo a satisfactory examination a class certificate will be awarded, signed by the Instructor, President and Secretary.

For examination purposes, the work in each Natural Science subject will be divided into three sections of equal value, as follows: (a) Prescribed text-book and lectures; (b) Practical and original work, such as dissecting, experimenting, etc., in the laboratory; (c) Collections, mountings, apparatus. The purpose of this arrangement is to lay the chief stress on *real* knowledge of a practical character, rather than on knowledge derived chiefly from text-books. The lectures and demonstrations during the session of the school are intended especially to elucidate facts and principles that are more or less obscure, and to exhibit the best methods of teaching elementary science.

All laboratory work will be done by the aid of the simplest equipments, such as are within the reach of the common schools of Nova Scotia.

A prize of \$10.00 will be given for the best set, and another prize of \$5.00 for the second best set of home-made apparatus adapted for the use of common schools in illustrating the best method of teaching physics and chemistry.

At a public meeting recently held by the citizens of Parrsboro, it was unanimously resolved that four lecture rooms be fitted up as class-rooms, and the rink for public meetings. In addition to this a sum of money was voted to procure chemical and physical apparatus. Parrsboro affords ample hotel accommodation for all visitors. Any information concerning board will be cheerfully given by Principal Craig.

**BOOKS.** Papers and requisites for those attending the school may be obtained at the Parrsboro bookstore.

**EXPENSES.** To defray expenses a tuition fee of \$3.00, payable in advance, will be charged. One dollar extra will be charged to those who take the course in elocution.

**BOARD.** Good board may be obtained for \$3.00 per week.

**REDUCED FARES.** It is expected that reduced fares will be secured on all railways and steamers by persons attending the Summer Science School.

**APPLICATION.** It is very desirable, to facilitate further arrangements, that persons intending to be at the Summer School of Science should make application to the Secretary at an early date—not later than June 1st.

For further information address the President, Instructor or Secretary.

J. B. HALL,  
*Secretary.*

Truro, N. S.

#### How to Interest Pupils in Natural Science.

We condense from a valuable paper, read to the teachers of York County by Prof. L. W. Bailey, Ph. D., of the N. B. University, some excellent hints on the practical teaching of Natural Science. After noting the great advances in this subject here and elsewhere, and the increasing interest in it, he said:

"When present at the annual examinations of the public schools, I have oftentimes been struck with the great contrast, as regards intensity of interest, on the part both of the pupils and the audience, in the first and second grades, where object teaching plays so conspicuous a part, and that of the higher grades, which deal so largely with mere abstractions. It is the practical recognition of these facts, and the continuation of the natural method of teaching which they suggest, which gives to the kindergarten system at once so much interest and value. But why should this system be confined within such narrow bounds? We are all but children in view of the stupendous realities of nature, and the whole world is but one great kindergarten, boundless in its resources, infinite in its variety, and never failing to afford profit as well as recreation to all who would approach her in the right spirit. Permit me briefly to indicate, in a very simple way, some of the paths in which, as it seems to me, her treasures may be sought even by the young, and in connection with ordinary school work."

Dr. Bailey proceeded to show how geography might be made a living study instead of the dull and profitless exercises too frequently given to pupils, by requiring them to memorize portions of text-books. Their observing powers should be quickened by drawing their attention to physical features of their neighborhood, encouraging them to draw maps, and to notice the natural forces at work in the past and at present in forming valleys, hills, plains, etc. Especially may pupils be led to take an intelligent interest in the physical phenomena constantly occurring, which would make geography a study of life-long interest.

"Finally, useful enquiries may be originated of a semi-botanical or semi-zoological kind. As to the distribution of our native plants, the comparative abundance or rarity of different species, their different places and habits of growth—some in shady woods, others in open fields, some on dry hillsides, and others by the sides of water courses, some flourishing on banks of sand, and others again only in