

Railroad men, bankers, telegraph operators, can make their work a uniform system, and teachers surely can. Why should not a promotion card from Halifax secure for the holder his position in a St. John school? If this were so, trouble would be saved the principal of the school to which the pupil came, disappointment would be saved to the pupil, and dissatisfaction to the parent.

Such a convention is not only practicable but desirable. From it much good could not fail to come. Let the superintendents of education for these provinces arrange for it during the coming summer. Let there be a carefully prepared and practical programme. Not so much speech-making as deliberation on the best means to procure a greater uniformity in the school systems of these provinces by the sea.

MECHANICS' INSTITUTES.

A most praiseworthy movement has originated in Truro—the revival of Mechanics' Institutes. Many years ago they flourished, but were gradually supplanted by other institutions which took up the more general subjects as part of their work. The mechanics were left without any attention being paid to their special needs. The Institute in Truro will probably have classes in various practical subjects—taught mainly by the professors of the normal school and of the academy. A library, well supplied with books on industrial, mechanical and technical subjects, will be an attractive feature. The Institute will probably apply for and obtain a handsome provincial grant. We would like to see similar institutions started in New Glasgow.

Our schools and academies should, no doubt, make the education which they give as practical as possible.

When they find a subject which trains the mind and develops the man, and at the same time gives prominence to any kind of knowledge, useful directly in the more common avocations of life, by all means let it form a part of our course of study; but the schools should not be diverted from their higher object, an all-round development, by the cry for practical studies. The time for them is after a good general education has been given, and the place is the technical school or the Mechanics' Institute. This country is surely now far enough advanced to give special encouragement to technical schools in centres like Truro and New Glasgow.

“I have been receiving the REVIEW for seven years and am very thankful for the great help it gave me in teaching.”

Kings County, N. B.

E. B.

TALKS WITH TEACHERS.

Never let anything interfere with your regular attendance at teachers' meetings, whether called by the principal or others having authority to do so. It is only fair to expect that reasonable notice of such meetings should be given—a better way is to set apart a regular time for holding such. There is no doubt much carelessness shown by some teachers in their attendance. They permit any excuse to avail for their absence, and in the pursuit of their regular profession show an indifference that is most culpable. Not only attend these meetings, but take an interest to make them profitable for others as well as yourself. Do not consider it a task, but rather a pleasure and a duty.

The lax and indifferent manner in which a few teachers attend institutes has caused considerable comment, and has even attracted the notice of trustees and governing bodies. Teachers have been known to have their attendance voted by proxy, and scarcely to put in an appearance at all at these meetings; while in other cases they seem only to attend to answer to their names and absent themselves thereafter. Such conduct can not be regarded in any other sense than dishonest, and can only result in an espionage that must prove most distasteful, especially to those who are undeserving of it. Teachers are in duty and honor bound to attend all the sessions of the institute quite as much as they are to be present at their regular work. Another sign of levity and indifference shown by a very few teachers, is the bringing in and working at fancy work during the sessions. Such conduct speaks for itself, and has already been the subject for criticism by outsiders.

Teachers before engaging in any district should inquire as to whether the former teacher has been regularly notified to leave, and they should at the same time see that a trustees' meeting has taken place to ratify their own appointment. While the consent of the third trustee is not necessary, he must be given the chance to object, and any notice or agreement signed by two trustees without consulting the third in the presence of the others, is null and void. This will no doubt surprise some of you, but it is sound, as it has been tried out in the courts.

A man is not qualified to serve as trustee, whose wife is the teacher of the school, nor whose daughter, if she be under age. This will be a relief to some districts. A teacher should be very guarded as to teaching in her own district. If she values quietness she had better give it up on the first symptom of complaint. A man who holds a license to sell liquor is disqualified from serving as school trustee.

Before sending to the Inspector for a new register, see that the old one is filled up, and inquire of both old and new secretary—if there are such—for it.