

Educational Review.

Devoted to Advanced Methods of Education and General Culture.

PUBLISHED MONTHLY
(Except July)

ST. JOHN, N. B., MARCH, 1918.

\$1.00 PER YEAR
(Prepaid)

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EDUCATIONAL REVIEW.

Office 108 Prince William Street, St. John, N. B.
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Printed by BARNES & Co., LTD., St. John, N. B.

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THE EDUCATIONAL REVIEW,
St. John, N. B.

TEACHERS' SALARIES.

In connection with the remuneration of teachers in the Maritime Provinces the situation is becoming more serious and is resolving itself simply into a question of ability or inability to retain our teachers at all. We admit that in a few isolated cases local school trustees are at last listening to the petitions and granting a few dollars extra but

what is that compared with the tremendous increase in the cost of living or the lure to the West produced by the more reasonable wage? Take St. John for instance; where, after repeated applications for increase the teachers have been granted a sum which averages only about twenty-five dollars per annum, in the past four years. In this respect the following letter is self-explanatory.

"To the Editor of the
EDUCATIONAL REVIEW:

SIR: There is a feeling abroad that since the war began the lady teachers have had a most substantial increase in their salaries. I wish to correct this erroneous impression. Since the war began we have asked for an increase of \$100.00. In lieu of that we were granted a bonus of \$60.00 last term. Now we are assured by the board that they will grant us the extra \$40.00, making an increase of \$100.00 per annum in the last four years. Surely this is small enough in view of the vast increase in the cost of living of at least one hundred per cent; and in comparison with other increases of city officials."

GRACE M. YOUNG,
Secretary of Association,

44 Seely Street,
St. John, N. B.

Apart from the fact that we are losing the best of our teachers, year after year, it is a matter of justice that their's should cease to be the most poorly paid profession, and be raised to a standing equivalent to the duties imposed upon them, by the public. In the teachers' hands we have placed the making or the unmaking of the future men and women of the provinces, and if they are going to do their duty in a manner that will be commensurate with its responsibility and with the standing their profession entitles them to, they must be paid proportionately.

If the various school boards can produce sufficient reason as to why they cannot reasonably increase the teachers' salaries then let the Government take up the matter in a business like manner, and settle it in such a way as will be just to the teachers and the provinces.