

learns reticence. and, in that neighbourhood, if a young squirrel talks out loud in the nest, the consequences which follow have a tendency to be final. When the old lumberman had passed out of their range of view, the four little heads disappeared into the musky brown depths of the nest, and talked the event over in the smallest of whispers.—*The Heart of the Ancient Wood.*

### Teachers in Convention.

#### N. B. TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION.

The teachers of Albert County formed a union, November, 1902, the primary object of which was to effect an improvement in teachers' salaries. Through its influence unions were formed in various other counties of the province during the past year. Delegates from these unions and the St. John Teachers' Association met at Moncton on the 22nd of December, Mr. R. Ernest Estabrooks, president of the Albert County Union, in the chair, and organized the NEW BRUNSWICK TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION with the following officers:

President, R. Ernest Estabrooks, Harcourt; Vice-president, Miss Ella A. Copp, Sackville; Secretary-treasurer, H. H. Stuart, Hopewell Hill; additional members of executive, W. M. McLean, St. John; A. E. Pearson, Richibucto; Miss Bessie M. Fraser, Grand Falls, and R. D. Hanson, Bathurst. These are to hold office until their successors are elected at the next annual meeting of the association, at the time of the Provincial Teachers' Institute in St. John.

The reports of the various delegates were heard and after some discussion the following objects were set forth and a constitution adopted:

*Objects.*—To aid the cause of education; to exalt the character and efficiency of teachers; to lengthen the period of service for teachers; to increase the salaries of teachers and so render the profession more attractive and permanent; to use all honorable means to secure the passage of laws beneficial to the profession and to improve the condition of teachers and schools.

*Article I.*—This association shall consist of its officers and representatives from the various city and county associations.

*Article II.*—The officers of this association shall be a president, a vice-president, a secretary-treasurer, and four additional members of executive.

*Article III.*—Each subordinate association shall be entitled to one delegate and one additional delegate for every 25 members or major fraction thereof in excess of 25 members.

*Article IV.*—This association authorizes the executive to spend such sums as necessary to complete the organization of the province, and at our next meeting apportion the expenditure among the different subordinate associations.

*Article V.*—A minimum salary schedule for the whole province shall be fixed by the executive; and each subordinate association may fix a local schedule that shall not be lower than the provincial schedule.

The association passed a resolution opposing the issue of local licenses.

After adjournment a meeting of the executive was held, when the following minimum salary scale was adopted, subject to change as indicated in article 5 above:

- First class, males, \$275 a year.
- Second class, males, \$200 a year.
- Third class, males, \$150 a year.
- First class, females, \$160 a year.
- Second class, females, \$130 a year.
- Third class, females, \$115 a year.

In poor districts the extra government grant is considered a part of salary from trustees.

#### ST. JOHN COUNTY TEACHERS' INSTITUTE.

Over 250 teachers were present at this meeting, held December 17th and 18th, which proved to be one of the most interesting institutes ever held in the county. The impartial and prompt manner in which the president, M. D. Brown, conducted the proceedings, helped to produce this result, while the excellence of the papers read secured the undivided attention of the teachers. Papers were read by Principal Crocket, of the Normal School, on the Ideal in Education; Principal Owen, on Truancy; Miss Edna W. Gilmour, on Manual Work and Writing; Miss Florence Rogers, on Physical Culture, and Dr. H. S. Bridges on School Government. These papers were very fully discussed. The presence of Chief Supt. Dr. Inch and Inspector Carter added to the interest of the meeting. The St. John High School Orchestra and accomplished soloists furnished music. The following officers were elected: President, J. Frank Owens, B. A.; vice-president, J. S. Lord; secretary-treasurer, Miss A. M. Hea; additional members of executive committee, Miss Edna W. Gilmour and A. Lindsay Dykeman.

#### CARLETON COUNTY INSTITUTE.

The twenty-sixth annual session of the Carleton County Teachers' Institute was held in Woodstock December 17th and 18th, President I. N. Draper in the chair. It was the largest and one of the most successful institutes ever held in the county. Mr. Murray H. Manuel, of Richmond, read an excellent paper, Measures and Multiples. Inspector Meagher opened the discussion, which proved quite an interesting one. D. W. Hamilton, principal of the Kingston consolidated school, gave an excellent address. Mr. Perry read a very comprehensive paper on English Literature in our schools. Mr. Brittain dealt with Gardening and Nature Study. D. W. Hamilton discussed the subject, giving his experience in work preparatory for the consolidated school work.

At Friday morning's session a number of interesting questions were asked by the teachers and answered by Inspector Meagher, Mr. Brittain and others. Miss O'Brien read a clear and concise paper