

THE N. B. EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTE.

The N. B. Educational Institute met this year at Moncton—the first year in its history in which a meeting was held outside of St. John or Fredericton. The Moncton Board of Trustees, teachers, and people generally, vied with each other in extending to the visitors a cordial welcome. And Moncton has something to show in educational progress which has quite kept pace with her advance along other lines. If she is not already the second city in size and population in New Brunswick, she soon will be. She is ambitious, too, and fondly hopes to eclipse St. John somewhere during the twentieth century, if not sooner. Whether this hope will be realized, or not, history will tell. It is sufficient to note that the strides she is making in education will soon place her, in that respect, in the front rank of New Brunswick cities. She will soon have ready for occupation, the finest school building in the province, outside of the Victoria and Centennial in St. John. The Board of School Trustees is composed of some of the most public-spirited of her citizens, and Mr. C. R. Palmer, who fills the office of Secretary and Superintendent of schools, brings to his work an intelligence and progressive spirit that has already brought Moncton rapidly to the front in her educational development.

In spite of the dull weather, the Opera House was crowded to the doors on the occasion of the public educational meeting held on the evening of the first day on which the Institute was in session. A fine musical programme was carried out with excellent taste and spirit. Supt. Crockett, who presided, made an able and thoughtful address on education, in reply to Mayor Sumner's address of welcome to the teachers. President Harrison, of the N. B. University, in a strong and earnest plea on behalf of that institution, successfully replied to the attacks made recently upon it. President Inch, of Mt. Allison, impressed strongly upon teachers the nobility of their calling, and the high claims it had upon the people. Other addresses were given by Dr. Bailey, Mrs. MacFarland, Mr. Robinson, chairman of the Moncton Board of School Trustees, and Hon. D. L. Hanington.

Nearly all the work of the Institute that was laid down in the programme was accomplished in one day. Some excellent papers were read, and the discussions following them were suggestive and pointed. We are sorry that brief space compels us to give only the mere outline of the proceedings that is found in another column. To carry out such a programme in so short a time required tact and judgment on the

part of the presiding officer, and brevity and good sense in those who read papers and debated questions. Both requisites were not lacking, and the result was one of the most successful institutes ever held in the province. There was much in the addresses that teachers could carry away with them and think over. Without enumerating those fully, it may be said the paper of Inspector Bridges, followed by the address of Principal Cox, on the cultivation of patriotism in schools, although delivered at a late hour in the proceedings of the institute, were heard with a fixed attention, and received at the close such a round of applause that there was no doubt but a responsive chord was touched in the popular heart. These two companion addresses should be published in full. They are of interest to Canadians everywhere.

MEDICAL MATRICULATION.

We have on a previous occasion referred to the raising of the standard of the Preliminary Law Examination and its adjustment to the public school course prescribed by law. We are sorry not to be able to say so much for the Medical Matriculation Examination. There is no reason in the world why a medical student in Nova Scotia should not complete the High School Course before he enters on his medical studies. As it is, a boy who has not the scholarly qualifications of a second class teacher, can enter the profession. In the olden time, when there were no facilities for obtaining an education, and when the profession was not crowded, there might be an excuse for it. There is none now; even should Yankee or European Medical Colleges still continue the practice. If they come to our provinces, let them first show their ability to pass our Matriculation Standard before registration. A boy who cannot master the mysteries of our High School Course at a reasonable age is not old enough to enter upon a profession of such transcendent mystery and responsibility as that of medicine.

HELIGOLAND, Etc

Heligoland, it appears, is no longer to be part of the British Empire. In 1807, Helig Land (Holy Land) was captured from Denmark. The rock itself which is fast wearing away, together with Sandy Island formed an area of about three quarters of a square mile, with a population of 2,000 Frisians. About 15,000 Germans and others visit it annually during the bathing season. It is only twenty-five miles from the mouth of the Elbe. In return the Empire is enlarged by the virtual admission of Zanzibar, distant twenty-five miles from the West coast of Africa, with an area of 614 square miles of extraordinary fertility having