

## CIRCULAR TO INSPECTORS AND HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPALS.

GENTLEMEN,—The revision of the Regulations has been for some time under the consideration of the Education Department. This revision has involved careful study, a large amount of correspondence, and numerous interviews with members of the profession. The Regulations are now in press, and will be bound with the consolidated High and Public School Acts, which are intended to remain without material change for five years. It is intended to transmit as soon as ready, and without application to this Department, a bound copy to each Board of Trustees. It may be intimated in the meantime to teachers and students enquiring of you that no changes have been made that will disturb the organization or work of the schools. For the examinations of July, 1897, there will be no changes in the subjects prescribed or the mode of conducting the examinations. In view of the changes that will afterwards come into operation, and in view of special provisions which are in force only for 1896 and 1897, and which will not appear in the new Regulations, the following information is given :

## CONTINUATION CLASSES.

The work of these classes, as provided by the Public Schools Act, will be that required for the Primary Examination. A First Class teacher must have charge, but any Second Class teacher now employed will, if satisfactory to the Inspector, be deemed qualified for the purposes of the Act, so long as he retains his present position. The Regulations will provide for an equitable distribution of any grant voted for the purpose by the Legislature.

## PUBLIC SCHOOL LEAVING EXAMINATION.

This examination will be conducted under the existing Regulations for 1897. Under the revised Regulations, which will affect subsequent examinations, the course of study will be slightly modified and the answer papers read at the Education Department. Any Public School Leaving certificate granted heretofore, or that may be awarded hereafter, will have the same value as a certificate of having passed in Form I. The holder of a Public School Leaving certificate will not be required in 1897 to pass the examination in Form I. of the High School.

## FORM I. EXAMINATION.

This examination will be conducted in 1897 as in 1896. After 1897, in order to lessen the number of examinations, the Form I. examination will be abolished and every candidate for Primary standing must hold a Public School Leaving certificate, unless he holds a Form I. certificate or a Commercial certificate. Pupils preparing now for the Public School Leaving Examination of 1897, or pupils preparing for the Form I. examination, need by this announcement make no change in their purposes. High School pupils who do not hold Public School Leaving or Commercial certificates and have not passed the Form I. examination should, if they desire to get full Primary standing in 1897, write at the Form I. examination. High School pupils will not be allowed to be candidates at the Public School Leaving Examination until after 1897.

## DISTRICT EXAMINATION.

District examinations are now abolished, and the Public School Leaving Examination will take their place. This will still further lessen the number of examinations, and give every certificate granted under the Regulations a qualifying value that will be of service in any subsequent course which the holder may pursue.

## PRIMARY.

For Primary standing in 1897 the examination of Form II. must be taken and also that of Form I., or the Public School Leaving Examination, unless the candidate has received a Form I. certificate, a Public School Leaving certificate, a Commercial certificate, a District certificate or a Third Class certificate.

## JUNIOR LEAVING.

It should be understood that a Primary certificate granted on the former standards gives no exemption from any of the subjects of Forms II. and III. The holder of a Primary certificate granted this year, unless he was a Primary candidate before 1896, has no claim under Regulation 12 (1), and must conform to Regulation 10 of

Circular 4, and must take one of the Form III. examinations therein defined.

The Regulation 12 (1) of Circular 4 requires candidates to take at one examination the following subjects of Form II.:—English Grammar and Rhetoric, Arithmetic and Mensuration, and History of Great Britain and Canada; and of Form III.:—English Composition, English Literature, Algebra, Geometry, Ancient History, Chemistry, and (a) Physics and Botany, or (b) Latin, or (c) Greek, or (d) French, or (e) German.

This Regulation is now modified to allow the unsuccessful candidates at the Junior Leaving in 1896, or a previous year, who have been awarded a certificate of having passed in Part I. of Form II. (with or without Physics), to obtain a Junior Leaving certificate in 1897 by taking only the subjects above mentioned of Form III.

The special provisions of 12 (1) will not have a place in the revised Regulations, and will not apply to candidates after 1897.

## SENIOR LEAVING.

The same Regulation is also modified for Senior Leaving, so as to allow those who obtained a Part I. of Form IV. certificate in 1896 to complete the course in 1897 by taking the remaining subjects required by the former Regulations. The new requirements as defined in Regulation (10) will govern in all cases after 1897.

## HIGH SCHOOL ORGANIZATION.

It should be understood that no certificate issued by the Education Department gives the holder a right to be put in any particular class of the school. The form in which a pupil is to be placed is a matter that rests entirely with the principal of the school, who is responsible for its organization. As might have been expected, some difficulties in classification are due to the important changes of last year in the High School course, and to the effort to meet within two years the reasonable claims arising under the former Regulations. These difficulties will, it is presumed, disappear after next year, and the new curriculum, as given in the circular mentioned, may be expected to answer fully for the purposes of the secondary schools. In the revised Regulations the course of study is almost identical with that found in Circular 4, but it may be stated that both Geometry and Botany will be included in the requirements for the Public School Leaving Examination.

## SPECIALISTS' STANDING.

As stated in previous announcements to candidates, after 1897 an honor degree, as defined in Circular 2, will be the only non-professional standing expected for specialists in the departments therein mentioned. Candidates who apply under the temporary provisions of the circular referred to should remember that they must make good their claims in 1896 or 1897, if such claims can be considered. The new requirements must be met by all candidates after next year.

## NORMAL COLLEGE.

The course in Methods at the School of Pedagogy (Normal College) examinations, which now embraces Mathematics and English, is modified so as to include in addition, as obligatory subjects, Latin (now an obligatory subject for Junior or Senior Leaving standing) and elementary science (the Primary course). The optional groups in Methods, one of which must be taken by all candidates, are (a) Greek, (b) French and German, (c) Physics, Chemistry, and Biology. This change is due to the statutory provisions regarding Continuation Classes and to the varied courses that give Senior Leaving standing.

After 1897 every candidate at the examinations of the Normal College will be required to take the regular course of training at that institution. The removal of the Normal College to Hamilton will secure improved facilities for the training of First Class Public School teachers and assistant High School teachers. First, Second, and Third Class teachers will, therefore, receive their training at the Normal College, the Normal Schools, and the County Model Schools respectively. For the purpose of meeting existing conditions the provisions of the present regulations (Circular 9) may apply to candidates admitted to the Normal College during the years 1896 and 1897. Here, as in other instances, it is desirable to give reasonable attention to the claims arising under former

Regulations, and to adhere to a settled curriculum and uniform requirements after a fixed date.

Inspectors and principals may advise students making enquiries regarding the proposed changes that the existing Regulations will govern for the present work, and that detailed information respecting the revised Regulations cannot be given until copies are ready for distribution.

G. W. ROSS, Minister of Education.

Education Department,  
Toronto, October 20th, 1896.

## For Friday Afternoon.

WHILE I'M A GIRL.

BY H. S. HULL.

First Girl.—

While I'm a girl I'll learn to read,  
I'll try and try and so will succeed;  
I'll learn to spell and figure true,  
And letters write and send to you;  
I'll make sweet cakes and jelly-jam,  
Just think of that when you're a man,  
Now I'm a girl.

Second Girl.—

I'll run a race now, if you dare,  
From this place here to over there;  
This is the way my feet shall go,  
Swiftly pattering through the snow;  
What if you win? I'll have the fun,  
That's why I ask you now to run,  
Now I'm a girl.

Third Girl.—

I'll help my mother dust the chairs,  
Or run for errands up the stairs,  
I'll ne'er be cross if brother should cry,  
And this is the way I'll wipe his eye;  
I'll meet my father with a smile,  
And please him with my girlish wile,  
While I'm a girl.

Fourth Girl.—

I'll try to make this world as gay  
As shines the sun on summer's day,  
If you should fall and bump your head,  
I'll make you laugh—that's what I said;  
Thus shall I wield my girlish rod,  
By pleasing all thus please my God,  
While I'm a girl.

Fifth Girl.—

I'll darn your mitts and learn to sew,  
And this is the way I'll knead the dough;  
I'll sew your buttons neat and tight  
With No. 20 black or white;  
I'll make nice mats and cushion your chair,  
That's good enough for a city mayor,  
While I'm a girl.

All.—

We can't doctor; why, yes, we may!  
We'll feel your pulse in this good way,  
We'll count the beats as the moments fly,  
We'll cure your pains and stop your sigh,  
And with the judge we'll plead your case,  
And brighten up your downcast face,  
When we're no girls.

The sparkling brook ran merrily o'er its bed,  
A-singing with new life its merry tune;  
The zephyrs played about the dashing foam,  
And whistled careless through the budding trees,  
And danced and whirled amid the winter leaves.  
In matchless beauty stands the budding flower,  
Which, nodding, perfumes sweet the passing breezes.

The passing cloud, too, drops its dewy tear,  
That sparkling lies beneath the purple flower;  
With fragrant flowers one garden is the earth,  
Bedecked in green, in purple, and in red,  
In all their various shades of flower and leaf.  
Oh, glorious, fairy, fragrant, flowering form,  
A-humming, buzzing, whirling with new life,  
In all its forms, its weakness, and its strength!  
The yellow moss-backed bee, the downy bird,  
Awaiting to be fed and pleading food;  
The coiling snake a-basking in the sun,  
And darting forth its forked tongue at thee;  
The cricket and the katy-did are pealing  
Forth their cloister note of love and praise  
Of gratitude to glorious sun for warmth.  
How mystic are thy ways, O welcome Spring!  
From whence this life, these buds, these shades,  
these leaves?

How silently, yet wondrous, hast thou changed  
This sullen clod to flowers and spread  
Mantle green upon its murky form! How often!