

which the School system is passing. I think that, in future, it would be better if the Normal School Masters had nothing whatever to do with the examination of candidates for teachers' certificates. There are undoubtedly some advantages in teachers having a share in the examination of their pupils, but these, in the present instance, are far more than outweighed by the imperative necessity which exists that no one set of applicants for a certificate of a particular class should be subjected to a different ordeal from another, and also that no possible whisper of partiality on the part of a teacher to his own pupils should go abroad. This necessity is now more imperative than ever, inasmuch as both second and first-class certificates have a greater value than formerly; second-class certificates having been made permanent during the good behaviour of the holders, and valid in all the municipalities of the Province; and a first-class certificate of the highest grade rendering the holder eligible for the office of Public School Inspector. My opinion, therefore, is clear, that Normal School Masters should not have a place in future on the examining committee; and not only so, but also, that, if possible, there should be but one examination for the pupils of the Normal School and for other applicants for teachers' certificates.

In fact, the way seems to have been paved for this, however unintentionally, by the recent School Act. The clause of the Act which provides that second-class certificates shall be granted only by County Boards, applies, I presume, to Normal School students as well as to other persons; and hence those Normal School students, forming the majority of the whole, who do not aspire to more than second-class certificates, must appear before County Boards for examination, along with other applicants for certificates. It is true that an understanding might be come to with County Boards to issue certificates to Normal School students on the ground of examinations conducted by the Committee of the Council of Public Instruction; this, I suppose, would be consistent with the statute; but it is scarcely what the statute contemplated, and I am convinced that the Council of Public Instruction will not think of such an arrangement. If the larger division of Normal School pupils must thus necessarily attend the County Board examinations, why may not the other and smaller division attend the same examinations? It would be for their own advantage to do so; for, should a Normal School student be examined merely by a Committee of the Council of Public Instruction, and fail to obtain a first-class certificate, he could not receive a second-class certificate, the Council having no power to issue such a document. But, by presenting himself before a County Board, he might, in the event of his failing to obtain a first-class certificate from the Council, receive a second-class certificate from the Board.

I now pass to the subject of High School Inspection.

Increased provision for the inspection of the High Schools is undoubtedly required to be made. The task of visiting twice a year, more than a hundred schools scattered over the Province, is too heavy to be laid on the shoulders of any one man; and (what is more con-