

The time required to take a certificate depends, of course, upon the attainments and ability of the student, and the grade and class to which he aspires. To obtain a first class grade A, the *average* time taken is between three and four sessions. A few have taken such certificate in *one* session, but the majority require four, five and even six sessions. The average time required to take a second class certificate, grade A, is about two sessions.

Very few spend only one session at the Normal School. In most cases, students return for a second, and, in many cases, a third or fourth session. The certificates are awarded at the close of the session by a Committee of Examiners, of which the Head Master and Second Master of the Normal School are members. The examination lasts for six days, during each of which the students write for six hours. The papers are subsequently carefully read by the examiners, and a value, varying from one—the highest—to six—the lowest—is assigned to each. These marks, or values, are entered in appropriate columns in a book, called the "Certificate Record," which is kept for that purpose, and which serves not only to give a condensed view of the results of the examination in each individual case, but also for subsequent reference when any question arises as to the standing of a teacher in any particular branch, when he was in attendance at the Normal School. The grade and class of the certificate awarded depends partly on the standing attained at this final examination, (chief importance being attached to the marks awarded for Education, Aptitude to Teach, Arithmetic, Reading and Spelling, Grammar and Composition) and partly on the character the individual has earned for himself as to quickness and general ability as a teacher.

The examination papers (of which a sample set will be found at the end of this appendix), are so constructed that the best students in the class can be fairly expected to complete their answers within the time (usually three hours) assigned to the paper. The value given to the written papers (and set down on the margin of the certificate, *one* being the highest mark given and *six* the lowest) would run somewhat as follows: for 80 per cent. or over, *one*; 65 to 80 per cent., *two*; 50 to 65 per cent., *three*; 40 to 50 per cent., *four*; 30 to 40 per cent., *five*; and less than 30 per cent., *six*. The examiners hesitate to award certificates to any one who may have received *five* or *six* in any essential branch, and refuse absolutely to give certificates to those who have merited either five or six in aptitude to teach, spelling, arithmetic or grammar.

SPECIAL PREPARATIONS FOR DUTIES AS TEACHERS.

It has already been pointed out that every lecture given in the Normal School is given in such a manner that, making the necessary allowance for difference of age and attainments, it may serve as a *model* of the manner in which the teacher may treat the same subject before a class of children. In addition to this, however, the students-in-training receive a thorough course of lectures on the science and art of teaching, and they spend a portion of each week in the Model School, where, under the supervision of skilled teachers, they are required to take charge of the various classes, and conduct the lessons so as to give practical effect to the instructions received in the Normal School.

The lectures on education in the Normal School embrace the following course:—

- I. Art of teaching; characteristics of the successful teacher; qualification, manners, habits, temper, tone of mind, &c., &c.
- II. Modes of securing co-operation of pupils; how to secure attention; how to interest class.
- III. Intellectual teaching—in what it consists; how secured.
- IV. Mode of giving questions; kinds of questions; purposes served by each kind; characteristics of good style of questioning.
- V. Mode of receiving answers, and of criticising them; requirements by way of answering.
- VI. Correction of errors; recapitulations, &c.
- VII. How to teach—(a) reading; (b) spelling; (c) arithmetic; (d) grammar; (e) composition; (f) writing; (g) history; (h) geography; (i) geometry; (j) algebra; (k) philosophy; (l) object lessons; (m) other subjects.

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