

such work with advantage? Is it not a fact that not only have the H. S. Inspectors repeatedly dissuaded masters of such schools from undertaking it, but that the Department has had under consideration the advisability of forbidding even the Collegiate Institutes to engage in it, and of making pass senior the highest limit of school work? Then, no matter how willing or even anxious a master may have been to do such work, he may not have been able to get any pupils to undertake it, or he may have had pupils whom even a H. S. Inspector could not have enabled to take first class honours.

Again, take the time limit, what peculiar virtue is there in ten years that that length of experience should be rigidly insisted on? Who does not know that six years in one school may be easily worth ten years in another? Observe the effect: A. is a graduate, ranks first class in inspection, has sent up one candidate who obtained the required honors. He is

accordingly granted a certificate, while B., who is also a graduate, ranks equally high on inspection, and has perhaps three times as many of the required honours to point to, is hopelessly debarred from a certificate, solely because he has taught only eight or nine years in a High School instead of the magic ten. Could anything be more absurd in its unfairness?

Lastly, what shall be said of the unfortunate natural science man who, had he been ever so willing and able, could not have complied with the requirement, simply because there were no such honours for his pupils to prepare for, and who, if he ventures to apply, will be told that the proviso doesn't cover his case, and that therefore nothing can be done for him?

I think I have said enough to justify my assertion that the Regulations are arbitrary, unjust and absurd, and I ask, therefore, that *THE MONTHLY* and its readers will lend us their aid in obtaining justice.

NEMO.

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### EDITORIAL NOTES.

It is a cause of surprise to masters and teachers to see the persistency with which the Minister of Education issues every year, at the beginning of the school year, new rules and regulations for the conduct of the schools. No time is given for consideration nor for making suggestions by those who are most competent to advise upon questions so technical and so delicate as courses of study in our secondary schools. Most people would say that an administrator would be only too ready to consult and to receive information from those more immediately affected by the laws and rules adopted by his department. This long-expected day has not yet risen on Ontario. Our correspondent "Nemo" directs

attention to a matter which deserves the careful attention of the profession; and, we add, no regulations should take effect till at least a year has elapsed after they are adopted, and in no case should they be retroactive.

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### OBITUARY.

ON the first of September, at Niagara-on-the-Lake, there passed away one in the first rank of educational workers in the Province of Ontario. Mr. Donald C. McHenry, M.A., was born in Napanee, Ontario, in 1840. He was educated in the schools of that town, and entered a printing office at the age of thirteen.