

## CURRENT EVENTS.

## P. E. ISLAND TEACHERS' CONVENTION.

THE annual meeting of the P.E. I. Teachers' Association was held in the Y.M.C.A. hall, Charlottetown, on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, September 26, 27 and 28. The convention was one of the most successful in the history of the Association. There were 282 members present. The first meeting opened with an address by the president, Mr. N. E. Carruthers, principal of Kensington School. He referred to several events that occurred in the educational world since our last meeting. He also made reference to the South African war and the part taken in it by our Island boys, some of whom are members of the teaching profession.

The sessional committees were then appointed, after which Hon. Frank A. Hill, secretary of the Massachusetts State Board of Education, delivered a very forcible address on "Discipline and Citizenship." He said it is the duty of the schools of any country to aim at producing good citizenship. Good citizenship does not consist of a body of facts to be learned off, or committed to memory; it is a body of actions and principles to be acted, or worked out from within. The great value of the school to the state is to secure civic order and liberty. Right conduct comes from within, from the impelling force of good conduct in the school-room. The external authority of the teacher and the internal authority of the pupil are each the complement of the other. Let the teacher be what he wants his pupils to be; let him set them such a high ideal that a boy will feel mean at the thought of

deceiving the teacher or doing an unworthy or questionable act.

Convention adjourned till 8 p.m.

At the evening session Mr. Hill delivered his lecture on "Ideals of the Teacher in the Light of Modern Demands." He said one of the first demands is a higher scholarship. For the teacher to keep ahead of his pupils used to be considered enough. That idea belongs to the past. Even a primary teacher is a better teacher for having a collegiate training. The second demand is greatness of soil. Of what use is it that a boy knows how to read if he is going to read vile literature, or write, if he is going to write ignoble thoughts, or cipher, if he is going to use that knowledge to add up dishonest gains, or draw, if he is going to prostitute the art to base purposes. Another demand is that he must know how to teach. He must consider the means to be used, the steps to be taken, the end to be gained. A vote of thanks to the lecturer was moved by Principal Anderson, seconded by Superintendent McLeod, supported by Dr. Taylor and presented by the chairman.

Thursday morning's session opened with an address on "The Consolidation of Schools" by His Honor Judge Warburton. He showed the many advantages of the scheme, and claimed that the adoption of it would be greatly to the benefit of education in this province. He showed that agriculture could be properly taught in every school, if sufficiently large grounds were provided. Inspectors McCormac, Campbell and McIntyre and a number of the teachers contributed to a lively discussion on the advantages of the system advocated by the learned judge.